

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JERRY RICH

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an American who exemplifies the opportunities and possibilities our free enterprise system brings to all Americans and, like so many Americans, an individual who has taken his success and its rewards and found a way to share it in a meaningful way.

I am pleased to rise today and commend Mr. Jerry Rich of Sugar Grove, Illinois, and I am very pleased to be joined by Speaker DENNIS HASTERT in this tribute. As the age of technology dawned in the 1970s, Jerry Rich applied his entrepreneurial spirit and personal dedication to develop a technology system capable of providing those in the financial markets with the ability to monitor disparate information on a single screen. Jerry Rich's innovation is now shared in the capital markets and on Wall Street by everyone. His innovation and success ultimately led to a merger of his company with Reuters and retirement from his business in 1988. But like so many Americans, Jerry Rich applied his success to his passion, and his passion to benefit America's youth.

Jerry Rich bought eight farms and combined them into what is now known as Sugar Grove Estate. A passionate golfer, Jerry set out to build and develop a unique golf course, and unique it is. Originally nine holes with three separate tees, Rich Harvest Links is now an eighteen-hole championship golf course, ranked by Golf Magazine as one of the top ten new private golf courses in America. Rich Harvest Acres has a staff of forty-five attending to this challenging 7,446-yard, par 72 golf course. While Rich Harvest Links is one of the most exclusive in America, currently with twenty-five members and a plan for twenty-five more in the future, it also is a golf course that Jerry Rich shares with amateur golfers in the great State of Illinois.

Jerry is very active in the youth program, "Hook a Kid on Golf," which introduces youths to the game of golf and has spread to twenty-nine states in America and Canada. He started a foundation that funds the operation for "Hook a Kid on Golf" in Illinois where, last year alone, one thousand five hundred children attended five-day clinics.

Jerry Rich embodies everything the American entrepreneurial spirit represents. Throughout his life he has taken risks, applied knowledge, sought innovation and built a business. From its success he has been rewarded, and with that success he shared with others. This is what America is all about, and Rich Harvest Links is not just a tribute to golf, but a tribute to a great man of Illinois who cares: Jerry Rich.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY SITE APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, after careful consideration, I have decided that I cannot support this resolution.

The resolution would approve the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for a high-level nuclear waste repository. This is the site with which the Governor of Nevada has submitted a notice of disapproval under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended. Congressional approval of the joint resolution would override the governor's objections and would endorse the decision of the President approving the site. Under the law, the Energy Department would then be required to request the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to issue a construction license for the repository.

In my opinion, to vote for the resolution would mean voting to make a premature decision, based on incomplete science and without adequate consideration of all the important factors involved. I do not think that would be a responsible course or in the public interest.

The President's decision evidently was based on the recommendation of Energy Secretary Abraham, who said that he was convinced that sound science supports the Yucca Mountain site.

In reaching that conclusion the Secretary evidently relied on the Energy Department's comprehensive performance assessment. However, in recent months three other agencies have issued reports that cast serious doubt on that conclusion.

Last September, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste reported that, among other things, the system-performance assessment used assumptions that "mask a realistic assessment of risk" and that its analyses were "assumption-based, not evidence-supported."

Then, in December, the General Accounting Office identified more than 290 relevant issues, including such matters as the geologic integrity of the site and the flow of water through the site, and concluded that "DOE will not be able to submit an acceptable application [to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission] within the express statutory time frame for several years because it will take that long to resolve many technical issues."

In January of this year, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board reported that it had "limited confidence in current performance estimates" underlying the Energy Department's recommendation and that it considered the technical bases for those estimates to be "weak to moderate"—far from a ringing endorsement, especially for a project of such scope and importance.

Those are not the only analyses that give me pause. Another appeared just last month

in a Science magazine article by Rodney C. Ewing, a faculty member at the University of Michigan, and Allison McFarlane, who is in the Security Studies Program at MIT. In the article, Dr. Ewing and Dr. McFarlane note that "the passive properties of the [Yucca Mountain] repository site do not provide a long-term barrier to radionuclide release." That means there will be a need to rely on other things—engineering fixes—to prevent such releases. They say that the choice of Yucca Mountain as a repository site "is based on an unsound engineering strategy and poor use of present understanding of the properties of spent nuclear fuel," and that "there are other unresolved technical issues," including "the continuing controversy over the frequency and impact of volcanic activity" at Yucca Mountain.

And they conclude that "a project of this importance, which has gone on for 20 years, should not go forward until the relevant scientific issues have been thoughtfully addressed . . . To move ahead without first addressing the outstanding scientific issues will only continue to marginalize the role of science and detract from the credibility of the DOE effort."

I agree with that conclusion, which is why I am troubled by what seems to be a rush to judgment on the part of the Administration.

I do think that there are very important considerations that argue in favor of establishing a repository for the kind of high-level nuclear wastes that are at issue here, particularly the potential role of such a repository for disposition of military wastes such as spent fuel from our Navy's nuclear-powered vessels and in connection with our efforts to avoid proliferation of nuclear weapons.

However, I think questions about Yucca Mountain in the context of homeland security are not clear-cut.

On the one hand, the Administration points to the fact that more than 161 million Americans now live within 75 miles of a site where highly radioactive materials are stored and that while these facilities "should be able to withstand current terrorist threats . . . that may not remain the case in the future," as Secretary Abraham wrote in his February 14th letter to the President, and would be "better secured . . . at Yucca Mountain, on federal land, far from population centers, that can withstand an attack well beyond any that is reasonably conceivable."

On the other hand, there is something to be said for the argument that transporting large quantities of such materials over long distances would multiply the current opportunities for terrorist attacks because the vehicles doing the transporting would be attractive targets that could not always be totally concealed.

Further, I am not convinced that the Administration has adequately made the case that Yucca Mountain is the right site for such a repository or that "a repository at Yucca Mountain is indispensable" for our energy security, as Secretary Abraham also claims in his February 14th letter to the President.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

So, as things now stand, I am not persuaded that the case has been made for selection of the Yucca Mountain site, and I therefore am not ready to override the Governor's objections by voting for this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO THE JOHN BOOTH
SENIOR CENTER

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents for her commitment to our senior citizens.

Since 1965, the John Booth Senior Center has served the folks of East Baltimore. When first opened, the center was only one of 350 senior centers in the United States. Today, thanks to the efforts of its tireless director, June Goldfield, the center not only offers a community gathering place but a support service for East Baltimore's older citizens, enabling many of them to stay in the community as active, vital participants.

June began her full time employment with Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks almost 15 years ago and has dedicated herself to preserving and enhancing services for seniors. The center boasts unending activities and instruction as well as a close relationship with Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, which offers medical assistance to members. The ethnic food festival, prepared by center members, is among the most enjoyable activities.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating June Goldfield on her public service and wishing her well in her retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL ENTERPRISE
PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Small Business Enterprise Paperwork Reduction Act, a bill to relieve the burden of regulation compliance documentation.

Federal regulations are set to ensure worker safety and to protect public health and the environment. This nation's small businesses—representing 99 percent of all employers and constituting half our economic product—place a high value on compliance with regulations. Unfortunately, these requirements disproportionately burden small businesses, which spend millions of hours annually meeting federal paperwork and record-keeping requirements to prove that they have complied with regulations.

The time and effort spent by businesses and taxpayers to meet paperwork demands are estimated to equal almost 10 percent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. Clearly, this is a waste of time and resources better spent creating jobs and furnishing goods and services.

Federal paperwork consistently ranks among the top 10 problems for small busi-

nesses. Time spent filling out forms, takes small business owners away from conducting our nation's business. It takes doctors away from patient care. It takes restaurant owners away from serving patrons. It takes your auto mechanic away from fixing your transmission.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (PRA), since amended, seeks to minimize the cost and burden imposed by federal paperwork requirements and to maximize the usefulness of the information collected. The PRA of 1995 required reduction of paperwork burdens government-wide. Unfortunately, the burden did not decrease since 1995—in fact, it has increased by nearly 180 million burden hours during Fiscal Year 2000. This is the second largest one-year increase since the act was passed. It is also an outrage.

The PRA established the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) within the Office of Management and Budget to review and clear agency information collection requirements. Unfortunately, OIRA has been diverted from its original mission by an Executive Order that makes it a central clearinghouse for agency rulemaking actions. Review of regulations now takes up most of OIRA's time and resources.

This legislation seeks to bring OIRA back towards its original mission—to ensure that Federal agencies do not over-burden businesses and the public with requests for information and documentation.

The Office of Management and Budget listed a total of 710 PRA violations for Fiscal Year 2000.

This legislation will strengthen the PRA by requiring OMB to do more to enforce the law on paperwork burden violations.

In addition, by making violations of the Paperwork Reduction Act a more public matter, it will increase public awareness and force agencies to focus on the burdens they impose on small business.

Lastly, this legislation requires federal agencies and OMB to track the paperwork burdens on small businesses by industry type. Congress and the public should be aware of what burdens are being placed on our small businesses by Federal agencies.

Small businesses create 75 percent of the new jobs in America. To protect this economic dynamo, we must be careful about the burdens we place on these firms. If the burden of government paperwork becomes too great, it will stall the very engine of economic growth that has made America strong. This legislation is designed to tighten the load, so that small businesses can get back to work providing jobs, goods and services in their communities.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL
OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as a co-chair of the Correctional Officers Caucus, to honor the men and women working in our correctional facilities. On a daily basis, correctional personnel perform a wide range of jobs, from the routine to the extraordinary. Their work often goes unnoticed, but the efforts of correctional officers and employees

were never more apparent than on September 11, 2001.

Following the horrific terrorist attacks, the New York Correction Department immediately sent personnel to assist in rescue operations. Department staff controlled traffic congestion enabling emergency vehicles to reach Ground Zero and assisted firefighters by delivering fuel to needy fire trucks. They built a small "tent city" equipped with heat, electricity, telephone and fax lines to provide additional support services for the temporary morgue at Bellevue Hospital. The Department also conducted security clearances and issued thousands of photo ID cards to secure access to Ground Zero and other restricted areas.

Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, correctional officers and employees were deployed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to assist in various rescue and recovery efforts.

I have introduced H. Con. Res. 390 to recognize the week of May 6th as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, in gratitude for the courage and professionalism of the New York City Correction Department in the face of tragedy, as well as the daily work of all correctional officers and employees who perform their jobs with dedication and resolve.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor our Nation's correctional officers and employees. I urge my colleagues to recognize these men and women by cosponsoring this important resolution.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH
ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST
TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I offer these comments for the RECORD to supplement my vote on House Resolution 392—the resolution in support of Israel in the war against terrorism—which this body approved on May 2.

I voted in favor of the resolution because I believe what it said was both substantially accurate and needed to be formally declared by this Congress and this Nation: that there is no acceptable justification for terrorism in general and suicide bombing in particular. No one—no nation, no organization—can ever be perceived as gaining any advantage militarily, diplomatically, or politically from this reprehensible tactic.

I offer these comments because I'm afraid the resolution told only part of the story. What the resolution said wasn't nearly as controversial as what it didn't say. Because while it did incorporate some language addressing the humanitarian concerns of the Palestinian people, even the most ardent supporter of the current government in Israel would have to agree that the resolution was not as balanced as it could, or should, have been.

That's why I voted against ordering the previous question on the rule for this resolution. To put it simply, I hoped we could open up the debate on the resolution to include additional language. In my opinion, we could have made the resolution more balanced, portrayed a

fuller and more exact picture of the situation, and made it more productive in achieving a lasting peace in the region. In a House of 435 Members, there were only 82 who voted with me on this, and only three of those were Republicans. I wish we had more, because I think we would have ended up with a better piece of legislation.

In particular, I think the resolution would have been dramatically improved had it specifically mentioned our commitment to a Palestinian State, and the vision for the future most reasonable people share on this issue: two independent states, one Israeli and one Palestinian, living side-by-side in peace.

LAKE ALLATOONA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Lake Allatoona Awareness Week as proclaimed by Governor Roy Barnes of Georgia.

Lake Allatoona is located north of Atlanta in the foothills of north Georgia, and covers parts of Cherokee, Cobb, and Bartow Counties. It provides drinking water for over 500,000 people and recreation activities for millions.

Two years ago the Lake Allatoona Preservation Authority, LAPA, was created to lead the effort to protect and preserve this vital resource. The lake provides habitat for a number of endangered species, including the Etowah Darter, Gray Bat, Southern Acornshell, and the American Bald Eagle.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 7, LAPA and the Army Corp of Engineers signed a historic \$5 million joint study to plan for the preservation of the lake for generations to come. There is no greater way to preserve than to plan for the future, and for the citizens of North Georgia and this great natural resource the future is bright.

TRIBUTE TO PITTSBURGH REGIONAL ALLIANCE

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, recently a local economic development group—the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA)—was selected as one of the top groups in the Nation. Each year, the editorial staff of Site Selection selects the Top 10 Economic Development Groups for their role in bringing large-scale corporate expansion projects to their respective communities. These standards used to make their decisions included: Capital investment in the service area during 2001; new jobs created in the service area; capital investment per capita; and new jobs created per 100,000 population.

The PRA is an outstanding source of research and advocacy for regional development in western Pennsylvania, and I would like to submit to the RECORD Site Selection's explanation of why they were awarded this great honor:

Pittsburgh has been the manufacturing home of big steel, but much of that industry has closed and moved out of the country. The Three Rivers area has suffered through a downturn and repositioned itself as a city of the future. Building on the historic strengths of the area's energy traditions, the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA) helped Siemens Westinghouse Power choose a 22-acre site as the location for its \$122-million, state-of-the-art fuel cell manufacturing plant.

After the passage of Greenhouse Legislation by the state legislature, the PRA has begun to pursue an area Pittsburgh BioVenture Life Sciences Greenhouse approach to attract new industry. With cooperation with various academic institutions, the Bio Greenhouse hopes to position the area as a leader in biological research and development. "The Greenhouse will be the centerpiece of technology commercialization and economic development efforts," says D. Lansing Taylor, president and Chief Executive Officer of Cellomics. "It will also be the single organization to exploit synergies among university research strengths and facilities, and coordinate those efforts with economic development."

The PRA, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Dept. of Community and Economic Development, helped bring the world's largest producer of medical devices, Lake Region Medical, to the area. The facility will manufacture guide wires used for diagnostics and machine products used in the medical field, and will create at least 140 new jobs. The facility has qualified for a state financial package, including an Opportunity Grant and Jobs Creation Tax Credits.

I congratulate the PRA on this great award, and look forward to continue working with them as we bring back new growth and opportunity to western Pennsylvania.

HONORING ELAINE MARTIN

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elaine Martin of Nampa, ID, on receiving the Small Business Advocate of the Year Award. Elaine was a struggling farmer in 1985 when she decided to enter the highway contracting business. With a \$25,000 loan from her widowed mother she started a highway fencing company that, within a few years, became one of the largest guardrail companies in the western United States. Elaine's company, MarCon, now grosses over \$8 million a year, and has grown from 5 employees to more than 26 full-time employees. Starting with no knowledge of highway contracting, she's had the courage to explore every aspect of the business, from working alongside her crews to fighting red tape on behalf of contractors and small businesses everywhere. Elaine Martin has been a tremendous success, and Idahoans are extremely proud of her and the well deserved recognition she's received.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on May 1, I attended a ceremony in the White House at which the Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously to Captain Jon Swanson, who was killed during the war in Vietnam. As a result, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 120, on the Sanders of Vermont amendment to H.R. 2871, a bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that amendment.

Also, on Tuesday, May 7, I was in Colorado for a ceremony marking the return to the United States of the remains of Daniel Aaron Romero, a Colorado Army National Guard sergeant serving with the 19th Special Forces Group. Sergeant Romero was killed April 15 when an accidental explosion rocked a demolition range in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

As a result, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 127, on the bill designating the Federal Building located at 5100 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, MD, as the Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

For the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 128, on the concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the national importance of Health Care Coverage Month. Had I been present for that vote, I would have voted "yea."

For the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 129, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 414, the rule dealing with H.J. Res. 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that rollcall.

And, for the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 130, on H. Res. 414, the rule dealing with H.J. Res. 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on adoption of that resolution.

Also, for the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 131, on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3525, the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that motion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 133, I was inadvertently not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO JAMES D. TSCHECHELTIN

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to James D. Tschechtelin,

who is retiring in June as president of Baltimore City Community College. As president of BCCC, Mr. Tschechtelin has worked tirelessly on behalf of BCCC students and on behalf of the greater Baltimore community.

During his 12-year tenure, he helped educate and train a world-class workforce that is critical to the economic success of the entire Baltimore region. He has worked to Modernize BCCC's facilities, increase state funding, improve outreach and enhance responsiveness to businesses. His commitment and dedication to excellence has helped transform BCCC into a leading educational facility that meets the needs of businesses for talented employees.

We are fortunate to have had Mr. Tschechtelin at the helm of BCCC. His vision and dedication have helped the college meet new challenges. In recognition of his success, the BCCC Foundation Board has created the James D. Tschechtelin Workforce Scholarship Endowment, a scholarship that helps working students by providing half of their educational costs.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in saluting the accomplishments of James Tschechtelin as president of BCCC. His tenure has marked a turning point for the college as a respected institution that meets the educational needs of its students.

FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2002 (H.R.
2646)

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my congratulations to Chairman COMBEST, the Ranking Member, Mr. STENHOLM, and the 2002 Farm Bill conferees for their hard work in crafting a bipartisan bill that will help America's farmers.

The Farm Security Act of 2002 is the product of 50 hearings over two years. I am pleased that we were able to pass a farm bill that maintains the market-oriented features of the 1996 Farm Bill while fully complying with the Congressional Budget Resolution. This Farm Bill is critically needed by our nation's farmers who are facing the lowest real net cash income on the farm since the Great Depression. Record high costs of production combined with the fifth straight year of record low prices necessitated the quick passage of a farm bill that addresses these critical issues.

Americans rely on a consistent supply of nutritious food, and our farmers are the ones working hard to make this possible. Not only do they supply food for us domestically, but they also are the hands that feed the world. Our farmers deserve our support, and I was pleased to vote in favor of this bipartisan Farm Bill.

Mr. Speaker, despite my support for this bill, I do want to go on record as having serious reservations about the price tag the Farm Bill could have for taxpayers. There is no doubt we need a strong farm bill, which I support. But I am concerned we are voting today on an overinflated six-year bill that has the potential to cost taxpayers far more than the estimated \$170 billion. We must guard against turning the family farm into the federal government's farm. My concern is that this bill, while con-

taining good provisions, is dangerously close to moving beyond reasonable support for farmers into warding the family farm to the welfare state.

The American dream for agricultural producers is not a land of neo-government farms, but rather individual opportunity to succeed by profitably working the land they love and own. This is the farmer's dream. Then, when help is needed due to unforeseen events like natural disasters, Uncle Sam can offer assistance that encourages and motivates.

Another concern is that the 2002 Farm Bill abuses agriculture subsidies by reviving price supports for commodities such as mohair, wool and honey. It also distorts the market by adding subsidies for milk, peanuts, lentils and chickpeas. I am disappointed that provisions in the Farm Security Act of 2002 succumbed to the pressures of special interest groups while ignoring the best interests of the citizens and farmers I represent and the American taxpayer.

Despite disagreeing with many of this bill's provisions, I will vote in favor of the Farm Bill, because overall, it provides much-needed farm policy for the next six years and will help America's farmers. Without this bill, we would have automatically been forced back to 1938/1949 permanent farm laws, which would have devastated our economy.

Mr. Speaker, I hear from many constituents in the Fourth District of Kansas who care deeply about conservation. I am pleased to tell them that the Farm Security Act of 2002 builds on the current voluntary incentive programs for conservation that have proven to work. Farmers and ranchers will have the opportunity to participate in new conservation programs as well. I am pleased to know that the men and women who work the land and care most about it are the ones who are being provided with the power and means to better protect the soil, water and wildlife through the various conservation programs.

This farm bill includes more than \$200 million in federal funding for the Commodity Credit Corporation Bioenergy Program, which will help advance the production of biofuels, including ethanol. I have had many Kansans tell me they support continued investment into ethanol production as a fuel source. The 2002 Farm Bill provides federal assistance to bioenergy producers who purchase agricultural commodities for the purpose of expanding products of biodiesel and fuel grade ethanol.

Mr. Speaker, past farm program levels for sorghum have distorted the market and reduced incentives to plant grain sorghum. I was pleased to see this disparity addressed in the Farm Bill. Equity for Kansas feed grains is important to Kansas farmers, and I strongly support this corrective provision.

I am also pleased that the food stamp program has been simplified allowing states more flexibility in helping those in financial poverty. With the reduction of state reporting requirements, we are allowing states to require households to report changes in household circumstances not less often than once every six months in lieu of reporting changes as they occur. Another simplification in the food stamp program provided for in the Farm Bill allows states the option to exclude, rather than deduct, child support payments, and it allows the use of the Child Support Enforcement Agency data to determine the amount of support paid.

Kansas farmers rely heavily on trade with other countries. With forty percent of U.S.

commodities going into the export market, it is essential that producers have access to expanded markets. The 2002 Farm Bill answers this need by comporting with the United States' international trade obligations under the WTO. This allows for the promotion of more free trade for our future. Furthermore, the Farm Bill makes substantial investments in programs designed to aid in the creation, expansion and maintenance of foreign markets for U.S. agriculture products.

Generous support for the Market Access Program, the Food for Progress Program, the Food for Peace Program, the Foreign Market Development Program and the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program are a few examples of how this Farm Bill helps expand our markets while sharing our bounty with the needy in developing countries around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, research has been recognized in this Farm Bill as being the key to keeping U.S. producers competitive in the world market. The Farm Security Act of 2002 makes a significant new investment in research programs that will help reap rewards for producers and our society for generations to come.

The Farm Bill makes significant investments in improving rural development. Rural development programs are important to sustaining communities by aiding in the development of infrastructure and job creation in rural areas. Our small communities across this country benefit from these programs, and I am pleased that this farm bill recognizes their importance to our American way of life.

Getting broadband Internet service to our rural communities is also a concern I have. With the passage of the 2002 Farm Bill, we will be providing a total of \$100 million to provide loans and loan guarantees to allow rural consumers access to high-speed, high-quality broadband services.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to know that value added market development grants have been expanded to meet producers' interests in start-up, farmer-owned, value-added processing facilities. These grants will help establish resource centers to assist producers in value-added endeavors. The Farm Bill recognizes the importance of enabling producers to capture more of the value of their commodities.

The Farm Security Act of 2002 offers farmers and ranchers and all Americans a balanced approach to securing our agriculture security into the future. I commend the Chairman and conferees for their dedication to a quality farm bill.

BRAIN TUMOR ACTION WEEK

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a speech written by my dear friend and Alabama native, Adrienne McMillan Burns. Adrienne was diagnosed with a brain tumor three years ago and has served as a shining example of how to survive with grace to people with potentially terminal illnesses ever since.

I have reflected on this tragic condition and Adrienne's case in particular during this Brain

Tumor Action Week. It is so important to call attention to the illness, its symptoms, treatment, patient recovery and related issues, and I strongly support the designation of this week to focus on brain tumors.

Adrienne has been an inspiration to me, her many friends and loving family over the length of her illness. I highly recommend her speech to my colleagues. I believe Adrienne's bravery and honesty in confronting and talking about this illness will give courage and inspiration to others in her situation.

To Adrienne, I wish a continuing successful recovery and return to a normal life with her family.

MY JOURNEY WITH A BRAIN TUMOR
(By Adrienne McMillan Burns)

A recent Wall Street Journal article highlighted the fact that a brush with death can temporarily change our perspective on life for the better. Experiencing more than a brush—an extended fight against a potentially fatal disease—has served to sustain such a view for me. I believe these experiences, both brushes and extended fights with death, can ultimately be used to benefit many people. And I believe that those of us with these experiences serve our fellow humans well by sharing our stories.

Three years ago, after giving birth to my first child, I had a grand mal seizure. I awoke the next day in an ICU, and ultimately I was diagnosed with a brain tumor. The diagnosis was good as far as brain tumors go, but it was still a brain tumor, and the overall effect was a fast and harsh realization of my own mortality. I was 32 years old.

Life changed for me. As you might expect, I became interested in brain structure and function, and specifically in my own diagnosis and treatment. But life also changed for me in a more unexpected way. After living a life focused, to a great degree, on my own career goals and personal pleasure, I came to a different point of reference. I began to more fully appreciate that we have responsibilities in our journey on earth, not the least of which is the one to our fellow humans. I came to believe that the responsibility is simply to help one another—from the heart—in whatever way we can do it.

I changed my definition of success. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, that is to have succeeded." I immediately needed to know that not one, but many lives breathed easier because of me. As I lay down for my surgeon to cut my head open, it became amazingly clear what really mattered to me. It mattered how I treated people—how I developed and conducted myself in relationships, especially my relationship with my maker. It mattered how proud I could be of the way I conducted my life, something no person in the world but me could know. My personal integrity, my adherence to my core beliefs, mattered. That's it. Nothing else.

I survived brain surgery and recovered, and I desperately wanted to share my good fortune. I wanted to make someone "breathe easier." My husband and I left established careers in Washington, DC (mine in the energy industry), and I returned to school to pursue an MBA focused on healthcare management. I was determined to use my experience to influence what I believed to be the most significant way to help others: improving the patient's experience in health care delivery. Personally, I experienced exceptional technical care, but I also experienced tender, compassionate care. It mattered greatly to me that a nurse who handed me medications in the middle of the night

smiled as she did so. Her tender smile assured me, as I lay in great vulnerability, that the people to whom I entrusted my life cared about my life. There were other smiles in the hospital, and they had the same effect on me. In retrospect, I'll never know if the smiles really indicated such a care. People could have been smiling for any number of reasons. But I believed it was the care, and that made a difference to me. There was an overall feeling of compassion in the hospital, and I know it had as much to do with my healing as did the expert hands of my surgeon.

My plans focused on systemic change. While not attributing health outcomes solely to smiles (!), I wanted to foster compassionate health care delivery. I wanted to provide hospital environments that allowed doctors, nurses and every other employee to deliver compassionate care along with the very important technical care. I believed that basic respect and appreciation of all employees was at the heart of inducing the much appreciated smile and compassionate care.

With a newly found passion, I set an ambitious goal. I believed systemic change could primarily be effected from the top of an organization, therefore, that's where I wanted to be. I envisioned personally catalyzing movement to a higher health service standard by which every patient in the world eventually would be treated!

Two years later I had a recurrence of the tumor. Again, my surgeon expertly brought me through surgery, and this time I received radiation therapy in hopes of being done with the patient side of the health care world! Other than the affront to my vanity from lost hair, brain radiation wasn't all that bad, and getting to know other patients in the waiting room was a blessing.

In the interim two years, I worked towards my goal. I completed half of the MBA, and I worked at a major academic medicine center. What I learned most during that time is that there are a lot of compassionate, smart people out there working to make patients breathe easier. I learned that we are a fortunate people to have so much effort directed at the goal of improving the lives of others.

I'll finish school this year and, God willing, I'll work to effect smiles and compassion in health care delivery! But the recurrence gave me another, perhaps more important, insight. Not only can I improve lives through systemic efforts in health care delivery, but I also can improve the lives, in small ways, of the people with whom I come into contact each day. I can look people in the eye and smile. I can give people the respect we each deserve. I can seek out the good in all people; if I'm looking for the good, perhaps it's what I'll see, and it will probably influence my relationship with that person. That person probably needs to experience a relationship based on that view of him or herself. M.K. Gandhi once said, "Be the change you want to see in the world." I can do that, and I can do it now. That is significant.

In my experience, appreciation of mortality becomes a filter through which everything is forevermore received. This appreciation brought an amazing shift in my perception, and it's made the world seem an even better place to me. I look for and I find more serenity, compassion, and integrity in the world. I find things more beautiful, and I find more beautiful things. I looked up—to God—and I remembered that He is my compassionate and tender caregiver. After experiencing acute depression, He (and a very good psychiatrist!) led me to rediscover pure, unaltered joy—the kind my three year old seems to feel when I allow him to choose any one thing he wants in the bakery near our home.

So, that tumor, as unwanted as it was, changed my life for the better—forever. It's

been said that it's easy to forget a lesson from a brush with death, and I do catch myself taking life for granted on occasion. Yet, there's an underlying permanence to the shift in perception that cannot be reversed for me. I've talked with other patients—brain tumor and otherwise—who've said the same thing. It amazes me. It takes something terribly frightening to make us appreciate all the fortunes we have.

I'll close by going back to my thoughts on responsibility. It seems that many of my friends are searching—soul-searching or otherwise—and it seems that others are too. I want to do my small part to help someone in their search, or to make them breathe easier. Perhaps we all can help. Perhaps those of us who have had the occasion to contemplate mortality, at any level, can perpetuate the important lessons we each learn from the experience. We can tell our stories, thereby reminding ourselves and informing others of what we've found when everything but the basics of life are stripped away. By telling our stories, maybe we help each other to help each other. Maybe then we all breathe a little easier. What a success!!

PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF
H.J. RES 84, DISAPPROVING THE
ACTION TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT
UNDER SECTION 203 OF
THE TRADE ACT OF 1974 TRANS-
MITTED TO THE CONGRESS ON
MARCH 5, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Joint Resolution 84, disapproving of the President's actions to impose higher tariffs on imported steel products than those recommended by the International Trade Commission, and against the accompanying rule. First, Madam Speaker, let me state in regards to the rule, I feel it is important that this chamber have a full and vigorous debate on the impact of the steel tariffs imposed by the President. This rule is creatively slanted in favor of protectionism and against free and fair trade.

The tariffs, implemented by President Bush on March 5, are a well intentioned, but misguided effort to help the domestic steel industry. Although I agree the steel industry needs to be supported and reformed, protecting it from global competition, which is the essence of free trade, is not the answer. The industries that transport steel and those industries that need steel to make their products in the U.S. have begun to feel the brunt of these protectionist measures. Recent estimates reveal that the restrictions could cost as many as 74,500 jobs in steel consuming industries in order to protect 8,900 steel jobs. In addition, protecting these steel jobs will do nothing to address the needs of the thousands of retired steel workers concerned about their retirement security. Ironically, tax revenue from the jobs in steel transportation and those industries which purchase steel could have been used to provide a solution to these other problems.

The Port of Wilmington, in the State of Delaware, imported 57 percent less steel in 2001 than in 2000 due to federal government steel safeguards—which caused a decrease of

53,000 work hours at the Port. The economic benefits provided by the steel consuming industries and our nation's ports cannot be forgotten in this debate. For example, the Delaware River region generated \$70 million in total tax dollars for the State and Federal government in 2001. It is evident that the ITC's tariff recommendations would cost far fewer American jobs in the manufacturing, shipping and port industries.

Furthermore, since the President's decision, our trade partners have begun to retaliate, which could further hurt the U.S. economy. Immediately following the decision, the Russian Government instituted a ban on the importation of U.S. poultry, which adversely affected the poultry industry in Delaware and throughout the nation. Other nations are also announcing retaliatory actions and filing complaints with the World Trade Organization. For example, the European Union has announced a broad range of possible tariffs on U.S. products, some as high as 100 percent, that would affect countless U.S. industries, including citrus and textiles.

I recognize the need to support our domestic steel workers, but these measures must be done in a fair and balanced manner that generates U.S. jobs and spurs the national economy—not in a manner that adversely impacts these two fundamental principles and favors protectionism. Today, I rise in strong support of free and fair trade and the role of the United States in the global economy. At a minimum, I encourage my colleagues to vote against the rule in order to allow a full and fair debate on this legislation to overturn the President's decision. And I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting H.J. Res. 84.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor of the House of Representatives today in the name of democracy, in the name of hope, and in the name of peace.

As long-standing supporters of Israel, we recognize and respect Israel's unquestioned right to self-defense.

The United States has a long history of promoting and supporting democracies. It has long considered Israel its closest ally in the Middle East, because Israel is a democracy.

It is because of our passion for democracy that we cast votes against the procedural steps needed to bring House Resolution 392 to the floor.

These procedural steps prevented any amendments or any substitute resolutions to be considered by the Congress. We were not permitted to consider or debate either Senator LIEBERMAN's or Congressman DEFAZIO's language.

We were not given the opportunity to meet with our constituents and hear their thoughts and concerns on this divisive and complicated matter. Nor were there any hearings on this resolution. This is wrong and does not speak to debate that is central to our democratic process.

While we support House Resolution 392 in its final form, we have concerns that this resolution presents a one-sided view of a many-sided reality.

We cannot ignore the suffering of the Palestinian people and the loss of innocent civilians.

We cannot ignore the economic hardship the Palestinians have endured as they continue their attempts to create their own Democratic nation.

And we cannot ignore the physical damage done to Palestinian infrastructure in Jenin, in Ramallah and other towns in the West Bank.

Even with the Resolution's shortcomings, we believe it is critical to speak out against acts of terrorism that have claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Israeli civilians.

The United States is scarred by its own September 11th experience and we have a new and somber national consciousness of terrorism on our soil.

We continue to hold out hope that the Israelis and the Palestinians will be able to achieve the peace of the brave that has proven so elusive. We are confident that the United States will be a true partner for peace and help bring a 21st Century Marshall Plan of resources and hope to those who today carry a rage of desperation.

REMEMBERING HARRY NORMAN

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the people of Atlanta, Georgia suffered a great loss with the passing of Mr. Harry Norman.

Harry Norman was one of the great leaders in America's real estate industry. Mr. Norman built Harry Norman Realtors into one of the nation's great real estate brokerage companies. Through his tireless efforts in the Atlanta Board of Realtors, he ensured the highest standards of ethics and professionalism in the industry.

There was not a community cause or charity of importance in Atlanta that was not blessed to have the support of Harry Norman. In every sense of the word Harry Norman was a gentleman's gentleman.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, Harry Norman was an inspiration to me during my real estate career in Atlanta. Next to my father, I know of no one in the business that I admired more. I extend my sympathy to his wife, Amy, and the extended family at Harry Norman Realtors.

SAY NO TO CONSCRIPTION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues who believe that the current war on terrorism justifies violating the liberty of millions of young men by reinstating a military draft will consider the eloquent argument against conscription in the attached speech by Daniel Webster. Then-representative Webster delivered his remarks on the floor of the

House in opposition to a proposal to institute a draft during the War of 1812. Webster's speech remains one of the best statements of the Constitutional and moral case against conscription.

Despite the threat posed to the very existence of the young republic by the invading British Empire, Congress ultimately rejected the proposal to institute a draft. If the new nation of America could defeat what was then the most powerful military empire in the world without a draft, there is no reason why we cannot address our current military needs with a voluntary military.

Webster was among the first of a long line of prominent Americans, including former President Ronald Reagan and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, to recognize that a draft violates the fundamental principles of liberty this country was founded upon.

In order to reaffirm support for individual liberty and an effective military, I have introduced H. Con. Res. 368, which expresses the sense of Congress against reinstating a military draft. I urge my colleagues to read Daniel Webster's explanation of why the draft is incompatible with liberty government and co-sponsor H. Con. Res. 368.

ON—CONSCRIPTION

(By Daniel Webster)

During America's first great war, waged against Great Britain, the Madison Administration tried to introduce a conscription bill into Congress. This bill called forth one of Daniel Webster's most eloquent efforts, in a powerful opposition to conscription. The speech was delivered in the House of Representatives on December 9, 1814; the following is a condensation.

This bill indeed is less undisguised in its object, and less direct in its means, than some of the measures proposed. It is an attempt to exercise the power of forcing the free men of this country into the ranks of an army, for the general purposes of war, under color of a military service. It is a distinct system, introduced for new purposes, and not connected with any power, which the Constitution has conferred on Congress.

But, Sir, there is another consideration. The services of the men to be raised under this act are not limited to those cases in which alone this Government is entitled to the aid of the militia of the States. These cases are particularly stated in the Constitution—"to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or execute the laws."

The question is nothing less, than whether the most essential rights of personal liberty shall be surrendered, and despotism embraced in its worst form. When the present generation of men shall be swept away, and that this Government ever existed shall be a matter of history only, I desire that it may then be known, that you have not proceeded in your course unadmonished and unforwarned. Let it then be known, that there were those, who would have stopped you, in the career of your measures, and held you back, as by the skirts of your garments, from the precipice, over which you are plunging, and drawing after you the Government of your Country.

Conscription is chosen as the most promising instrument, both of overcoming reluctance to the Service, and of subduing the difficulties which arise from the deficiencies of the Exchequer. The administration asserts the right to fill the ranks of the regular army by compulsion. It contends that it may now take one out of every twenty-five men, and any part or the whole of the rest, whenever its occasions require. Persons thus

taken by force, and put into an army, may be compelled to serve there, during the war, or for life. They may be put on any service, at home or abroad, for defence or for invasion, according to the will and pleasure of Government. This power does not grow out of any invasion of the country, or even out of a state of war. It belongs to Government at all times, in peace as well as in war, and is to be exercised under all circumstances, according to its mere discretion. This, Sir, is the amount of the principle contended for by the Secretary of War (James Monroe).

Is this, Sir, consistent with the character of a free Government? Is this civil liberty? Is this the real character of our Constitution? No, Sir, indeed it is not. The Constitution is libelled, foully libelled. The people of this country have not established for themselves such a fabric of despotism. They have not purchased at a vast expense of their own treasure and their own blood a Magna Carta to be slaves. Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war, in which the folly or the wickedness of Government may engage it? Under what concealment has this power lain hidden, which now for the first time comes forth, with a tremendous and baleful aspect, to trample down and destroy the dearest rights of personal liberty? Sir, I almost disdain to go to quotations and references to prove that such an abominable doctrine has no foundation in the Constitution of the country. It is enough to know that that instrument was intended as the basis of a free Government, and that the power contended for is incompatible with any notion of personal liberty. An attempt to maintain this doctrine upon the provisions of the Constitution is an exercise of perverse ingenuity to extract slavery from the substance of a free Government. It is an attempt to show, by proof and argument, that we ourselves are subjects of despotism, and that we have a right to chains and bondage, firmly secured to us and our children, by the provisions of our Government.

The supporters of the measures before us act on the principle that it is their task to raise arbitrary powers, by construction, out of a plain written charter of National Liberty. It is their pleasing duty to free us of the delusion, which we have fondly cherished, that we are the subjects of a mild, free and limited Government, and to demonstrate by a regular chain of premises and conclusions, that Government possesses over us a power more tyrannical, more arbitrary, more dangerous, more allied to blood and murder, more full of every form of mischief, more productive of every sort and degree of misery, than has been exercised by any civilized Government in modern times.

But it is said, that it might happen that any army would not be raised by voluntary enlistment, in which case the power to raise armies would be granted in vain, unless they might be raised by compulsion. If this reasoning could prove any thing, it would equally show, that whenever the legitimate powers of the Constitution should be so badly administered as to cease to answer the great ends intended by them, such new powers may be assumed or usurped, as any existing administration may deem expedient. This is a result of his own reasoning, to which the Secretary does not profess to go. But it is a true result. For if it is to be assumed, that all powers were granted, which might by possibility become necessary, and that Government itself is the judge of this possible necessity, then the powers of Government are precisely what it chooses they should be.

The tyranny of Arbitrary Government consists as much in its means as in its end; and

it would be a ridiculous and absurd constitution which should be less cautious to guard against abuses in the one case than in the other. All the means and instruments which a free Government exercises, as well as the ends and objects which it pursues, are to partake of its own essential character, and to be conformed to its genuine spirit. A free Government with arbitrary means to administer it is a contradiction; a free Government without adequate provision for personal security is an absurdity; a free Government, with an, uncontrolled power of military conscription, is a solecism, at once the most ridiculous and abominable that ever entered into the head of man.

Into the paradise of domestic life you enter, not indeed by temptations and sorceries, but by open force and violence.

Nor is it, Sir, for the defense of his own house and home, that he who is the subject of military draft is to perform the task allotted to him. You will put him upon a service equally foreign to his interests and abhorrent to his feelings. With his aid you are to push your purposes of conquest. The battles which he is to fight are the battles of invasion; battles which he detests perhaps and abhors, less from the danger and the death that gather over them, and the blood with which they drench the plain, than from the principles in which they have their origin. If, Sir, in this strife he fall—if, while ready to obey every rightful command of Government, he is forced from home against right, not to contend for the defense of his country, but to prosecute a miserable and detestable project of invasion, and in that strife he fall, 'tis murder. It may stalk above the cognizance of human law, but in the sight of Heaven it is murder; and though millions of years may roll away, while his ashes and yours lie mingled together in the earth, the day will yet come, when his spirit and the spirits of his children must be met at the bar of omnipotent justice. May God, in his compassion, shield me from any participation in the enormity of this guilt.

A military force cannot be raised, in this manner, but by the means of a military force. If administration has found that it can not form an army without conscription, it will find, if it venture on these experiments, that it can not enforce conscription without an army. The Government was not constituted for such purposes. Framed in the spirit of liberty, and in the love of peace, it has no powers which render it able to enforce such laws. The attempt, if we rashly make it, will fail; and having already thrown away our peace, we may thereby throw away our Government.

I express these sentiments here, Sir, because I shall express them to my constituents. Both they and myself live under a Constitution which teaches us, that "the doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind." With the same earnestness with which I now exhort you to forbear from these measures, I shall exhort them to exercise their unquestionable right of providing for the security of their own liberties.

NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, a recent USO/NFL tour to U.S. Army bases throughout Germany

served as a fresh reminder of the invaluable service the men and women of the U.S. armed forces are providing to our nation. NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, Pittsburgh Steelers running back Jerome Bettis and Tennessee Titans running back Eddie George met with U.S. troops to convey America's gratitude for all of the their service.

May is National Military Appreciation Month. This is a time when we recognize and honor our nation's 1.4 million highly-trained, active duty soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines. These brave Americans voluntarily put their lives on the line so you and I can live in peace and freedom.

We owe these heroes our active appreciation and support as they fight to preserve democracy.

We share the sentiments Commissioner Tagliabue conveyed to our armed forces: "So long as [our troops] are on the front lines, [we should] make sure [they] remain on the front page."

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to insert in the RECORD several news accounts of this important and noteworthy event.

[From USA Today, Apr. 26, 2002]

BETTIS SALUTES USA'S REAL HEROES

(By Jon Saraceno)

While wondering how Cleveland Browns fans will ease the pain now that cult hero Ben Gay is gone. . . .

Jerome Bettis is better known as the Bus, but this week he was into tanks and heavy artillery.

The Pittsburgh Steelers' rumbling running back accompanied NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue on Thursday to Germany, where they visited with U.S. forces on two military bases. Bettis flew in a black-hawk helicopter and spent time inside an M1-A1 Abrams tank. Tennessee's Eddie George will join them Friday as part of the league's Armed Forces Weekend, which includes an NFL Europe game.

"I want our servicemen to understand we care," Bettis said from overseas. "We appreciate what they're doing to guarantee our freedoms."

The trio will visit Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, where U.S. troops hurt in Afghanistan recuperate.

"It puts my job into perspective," Bettis said. "I guess I'm considered a hero of sorts, but I'm only a football player. The guys on the front lines are the real heroes. This is not some commercial you see where guys are jumping out of helicopters doing pretty stuff. This is real." . . .

[From the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Apr. 26, 2002]

AT LAST, THE BUS MEETS THE TANK

(By Ed Bouchette)

The Bus climbed inside a tank yesterday, and, along the way, Jerome Bettis confirmed that the patriots are mostly the good guys.

"It's incredible to see the troops and their daily living," Bettis said yesterday from Frankfurt, Germany, where he was part of a four-day USO/NFL tour of U.S. military bases.

Earlier, he rode in an Abrams M1A12, and, if only someone had made the connection earlier, Bettis might be known as The Tank today.

"I've been interested in that tank because my middle name is Abram," Bettis said. "Knowing about that tank and actually seeing it, getting into it and finding out that a tank can go 55 miles per hour with all the armor and everything . . ."

But what about its 40 time?
 "That's a great question," Bettis said. "I should have asked."

No one's asking Bettis about his own time in the 40 lately. He resumed running only last week for the first time since he gained 8 yards on 9 carries in the Steelers' 24-17 AFC championship loss to the New England Patriots at Heinz Field. Bettis missed the previous six games with a groin injury.

It has left some people questioning whether he can keep going as he enters his 10th NFL season after celebrating his 30th birthday. He was leading the NFL with 1,072 yards in the 11th game—and climbed to 12th on the all-time list with 10,876 yards—when he was hurt.

Let there be doubters, Bettis said from Germany.

"It'll be 10 years this year; I don't think I have to prove anything," Bettis said. "I just need to be 100 percent healthy, go out there and duplicate what I did last year. Everybody knows what I'm capable of. I'm not really worried about that at all."

"I'm used to that. Going into every season, the questions have always been about me, and I've always proved everybody wrong. I'm not really concerned about it. If people are concerned about me and my ability to go out there and play, they just need to check my track record. This is something I've been doing a long time."

Bettis has never failed to reach 1,000 yards in his six seasons with the Steelers and missed it only once in his three with the Rams. Until last season, he had missed only three games in his career. He is the NFL's second-leading rusher behind Emmitt Smith of Dallas, and he could reasonably become the NFL's ninth-leading rusher by the end of the season. He needs just 361 yards to surpass O.J. Simpson.

Bettis overcame a more serious groin injury at the end of the 1996 season and came back to have his career high in 1997 with 1,665 yards. But then, he was 25.

"Yeah, it's an injury that I've had to scrap and battle back from" Bettis said, "Fortunately for me, I've had the time to get healthy. And so, that's what I'm doing. There's no reason to rush back and jump back on the field for nothing. We don't play a game until September, so I don't plan to be doing that much crazy stuff until training camp."

Bettis was heading for another 350-carry season when he was hurt. He had 375 carries in 1997 and 355 in 2000, his two highest. Those days might be over. The Steelers would like to boost the number of times Amos Zereoue runs with the ball. Bettis welcomes it.

"That would be a great opportunity to increase this offense," Bettis said. "It's all about the team at this point. Hopefully, he will get opportunities. When I was in there [last year], he was getting more and more opportunities. I don't think anything's going to change."

"I encourage that, plus it helps me out. I don't have to take it 30, 35 times. The old man can't do that all the time anymore. That was the plan last year, and it was working. Unfortunately, I just didn't hold up my part of the deal."

Today, Bettis will join Titans halfback Eddie George and NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue on a visit to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, where many U.S. soldiers with more than groin injuries from the fighting in Afghanistan are recuperating.

Bettis anticipated the visit as much as he does running on Monday Night Football.

"I'm just looking forward to saying thank you. My goal was just to shake as many hands as I could, say as many thank yous as I could and kind of express the thoughts and minds of all the Americans back home that,

hey, we're with you guys, we're not abandoning you guys, we're living it with you"

"So many times, you never get the appreciation. I wanted to say thank you, we appreciate you for what you're doing for us."

[From the Stars and Stripes, Apr. 26, 2002]

NFL GOES LONG ON PROMISE TO DONATE GEAR TO MILITARY (By Kevin Dougherty)

WIESBADEN, GERMANY.—People often make promises, and a good number of them honor the pledges. But enough, more than enough, don't.

So when NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue said during a visit last month to a U.S. Army base in Germany that he wanted "to do something for these people," folks smiled, nodded and didn't dwell on it for too long.

Roughly two weeks later, Gail Camillo, USO-Europe's regional director, got a call from the commissioner's office. The message: Huddle together and figure out how many pigskins and how much flag football equipment you think you need.

"This shows where their heart is, and that they appreciate us," Army Sgt. Major Edward Faust said Thursday, as Tagliabue worked his way to a podium for a ceremonial handoff of gridiron equipment.

Military communities throughout Germany scored big Thursday when the NFL donated 1,405 footballs to unit, youth services and DODDS football teams and programs. In addition to the footballs, the league donated 8,825 pairs of flags for flag football and 5,224 cones to mark boundaries or for use in drills.

The equipment is going to be distributed to Army and Air Force installations across Europe. The USO will pass the goods to unit level football teams, youth services leagues—flag as well as tackle—and to Department of Defense Dependents Schools.

In all, 664 teams will benefit from the gift. "Any donation like this really helps us out as far as the bottom line," said Air Force Col. Al Swain, the director of staff for U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

Tagliabue made the presentation at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield, the site of his March visit. He was joined by Pittsburgh Steelers running back Jerome Bettis. Tennessee Titans running back Eddie George is scheduled to catch up with the group Friday, which will conduct visits with troops in Kaiserslautern, Hanau, Landstuhl and Baumholder. Their tour includes a morning stop at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and a meeting with troops injured in Operation Enduring Freedom.

"So long as you are on the front lines," Tagliabue said, "we in the NFL will make sure you remain on the front page."

STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this spring at the University of Vermont. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

REGARDING NECESSITY OF AMTRAK

(By Joseph Ferris)

Thank you for allowing me to speak here.

In the winter of 1997, Congress withheld \$2.2 billion from Amtrak, that had already been promised. Eventually, Congress allocated the money to Amtrak, with the stipulation that Amtrak achieve self-sufficiency by 2002. It is now 2002, and Amtrak has yet to attain self-sufficiency, and several congressional leaders, as well as the Amtrak Reform Council, are calling for the privatization. In the following minutes, I will explain to what the failures of achieving self-sufficiency can be attributed, and why such a radical idea such as privatization is unnecessary for Amtrak.

First, the costs to run Amtrak are astronomical. It costs \$3 million a year to maintain stations, tunnels and rails at operational conditions. Since 1997, there has been a \$5.8 billion backlog in work, in yards, equipment and technology. Also, Amtrak pays \$400 million to \$600 million a year to freight rail companies to use their tracks outside of the northeast corridor.

The funds Amtrak needs are \$20 billion to repair the century-and-a-half old East River and Hudson River tunnels that enter into Penn Station. Also, several billion dollars to implement the security systems necessary after September 11th. And also, in the fiscal year of 2003, Amtrak needs \$1.2 billion to operate long-distance trains along with other routes.

Now the money Amtrak is actually given over their 31 years history is trifling compared to the money that government doles out to airports and roads in a singular year. Over 30 years, Amtrak has been given a total of \$23 billion. Last year Amtrak got \$560 million, compared to 13 billion for airports and 33 billion for roads. Airlines received massive bailouts after September 11th. Amtrak was given only a token \$100 million for security.

Amtrak right now is caught in catch-22. It needs money to fix rails and crumbling infrastructure, but Congress won't give money to something they don't think will be around in a few years. Therefore, the following happens. Even though new trains, such as the Excel Express, are running, old rails only allow it to run at top speed for 18 miles of the 452-mile run from Boston to DC. Amtrak could be making money if the 2001 High-Speed Rail Initiative had not been killed in Congress. And also, a bill allowing for tax-exempt bonds, and loan guarantees for construction was pushed through the House and Senate.

Also, there is a severe philosophical and policy planning issue in Washington, DC right now. Though several national agencies are involved, none has ever set a policy path for Amtrak. Second, Amtrak has never had a dedicated source of funding that they could build around. Also, Congress expects Amtrak to make a profit, while history clearly indicates the exact opposite. Passenger rail was never a moneymaker. Even the New York Central in its heyday, with the Twentieth Century Limited, lost money on each passenger per mile. Even the European high-speed lines, which are heralded as blueprints for privatization, are money-losers. Thus, it would be ludicrous for Amtrak, which suffers from a fundamental problem—underinvestment—to then be expected to turn a tidy profit. Even though Amtrak's funding has been severely reduced, there are many positive signs that need to be highlighted before a decision about Amtrak's fate is made.

But first, right now, the status quo: We have wing-lock, gridlock, air congestion, rising gas prices, and in some major metropolitan cities, six-hour long rush hours. Also, airplanes release poisonous toxins into the upper atmosphere at rates astronomical compared to what trains release.

Also, rail works. It's the safest and most reliable transportation system during

storms. In the past decade, light rail and freight expansion have worked. Also, passenger trains are two to eight times more fuel-efficient than planes, and much more economical.

The Pacific Northwest Corridor, which is run by Amtrak and the state governments of Oregon and Washington, has seen a dramatic increase over the past decade, after infusion of state money was allowed to build a high-speed rail corridor. Also, sleeping cars, which are often referred to as archaic, and for train-bus alone, experienced an increase of 19 percent over last year's statistics. February of 2002 was the sixth straight month that rail ridership was up and air ridership went down.

Amtrak handles 40 percent of all traffic in the New York-Washington, DC, corridor. If high-speed rail corridors were developed in Florida, the southeast and Texas, per se, they could garner up to 20 to 30 percent of all traffic in that area. Ridership from 1978 to 2001 increased 24 percent, while funding was drastically cut by almost 80 percent.

What should be done? I believe a one-cent tax should be instituted on all gasoline purchases, as well as a one-and-a-half cent tax on all domestic airplane tickets, which would give Amtrak a sustained source of income coming out to about \$3.1 billion a year.

Also, Amtrak should be given \$50 billion grants spread over two years to replace antiquated signals, rails, equipment and technology. Congress shall reintroduce the \$12 billion high-speed rail initiative, and will follow the DOT's report on high-speed rail corridors, which indoctrinated eleven corridors in 33 states. A system of 80 percent matching funds will be established to match funds invested by state and local government; because, right now, states and local governments get zero percent matching funds, while for highway they get almost a hundred percent.

An independent committee will be formed to find timesaving and performance-enhancing changes, such as customs agents will be put aboard international trains, and will check passenger IDs at each respective station that the passenger gets on, instead of at the border, which causes a backlog of about three hours.

Also, mail cars, which in the status quo are put on after the train is boarded in the yard, which costs another two hours for each train, will now be added to the train when it is put together in the yard, so there will be a flow from the station to point B.

Thank you very much.

REGARDING CHILD LABOR

(By Colin Robinson, Marcia Lo Monoco, Sarah Kunz, and Delia Kipp)

COLIN ROBINSON. Good morning, Congressman Sanders and Professor Gutman.

Our testimony is going to begin with a description of the problem of child labor, and then we're going to move on to an explanation of the causes of child labor, then possible solutions, and wrapping up with what the Child Labor Education Act, CLEA, has done in Guatemala.

MARCIA LO MONOCO. Exploitative child labor is when children work under conditions that are hazardous to their physical and/or mental health, when they are deprived of an opportunity to get an education, and not paid a liveable wage. Once children begin to work, sometimes as early as the age of 4, their chances to change the future are very small.

It is common to think that child labor is a problem in Third World countries, but it is also a very real problem in the United States. One million children in the U.S. pick the produce we eat every day. There are an estimated 250,000 sweat shops in American cities. But child labor is a global problem.

The most prevalent type of child labor is agricultural work. Children work in fields for long, hard hours, and are exposed to hazardous chemicals. Children also work in manufacturing, construction, mining, the sex trade, and bonded labor. Bonded labor is when children are sold by their parents to manufacturers, where they are sometimes chained to their machines or locked in workrooms. Child labor is a global problem which prevents educational opportunities and continues the cycle of poverty and deprivation.

SARAH KUNZ. Child labor is one of the most heinous human rights violations occurring today. It can be thought of as a fire sparked by the oppressive cyclical nature of capitalism and fueled by corporate greed and corporate imperialism. American megacorporations such as Nike, Disney and Universityware exploit Third World economies through promises of mass employment. Instead, mass poverty ensues, due to subpoverty wages.

The frightening phenomenon that is globalization creates homogenous global markets driven by low wages and high profit margins. New global trade agreements and organizations such as NAFTA, WTO, the IMF, and pending free-trade areas of the Americas in effect declare labor laws barriers to trade. Union-busting in sweat shops, mines and fields all around the world destroy democratic principles at their roots.

The oppressive nature of capitalism inherently creates such conditions as poverty and inopportunity. The child population is easily manipulated and often exemplifies the most desperate of the human condition. Due to the plight of the economically distressed, many children have no other choice than to work.

COLIN ROBINSON. The issue of a solution to child labor is one that is intimately intertwined with the global economy. However, the exploitation and abuse of innocent children cannot be outrightly ignored. A solution will come out of hard work and education. We must educate people about the human rights abuses, about the four-year-olds carrying twenty pounds of bricks, about the young boys and girls forced to work the streets, selling their bodies for sex. We need to create a conscious consumer, starting at a young age, a consumer who will think twice before buying goods made by children.

Furthermore, we must appeal to lawmakers, lobbyists and corporate officers to instate rules giving children their rights. Through letters, we have a voice. The 1998 bonded labor act, written by you, Congressman Sanders, was the first step in this branch of change. Finally, the fortunate youth of the industrialized world can unite to help their distant peers. Through student organizations like ours, CLEA, Child Labor Education in Action, the youth have a voice. It gives them a pulpit from which would be heard.

The child laborers of our world need a voice. So educate yourself and speak out.

DELIA KIPP. In April of 2001, sixteen students from Child Labor Education in Action traveled to Pasac Segundo in western highlands of Guatemala. The people of the Pasac Segundo are Mayans and victims of extraordinary poverty. This is an agricultural community, and here is where the children work, in the fields surrounding their homes. This is a place where the land is rich and the people are poor.

The children of the Pasac Segundo had no way of breaking the vicious poverty cycle until two years ago, when their parents and other community members joined together to start a school. We went to Pasac Segundo to help them build a new school. Alongside adults and children of the village, we cleared the land of stone and leveled the ground. We dug foundations and constructed rebar frames to reinforce cement and bricks.

We left with unbreakable ties and eagerness to continue to support the school. We have continued to fund-raise during the past school year. We held concerts, a benefit dinner, as well as many other successful activities. In total, we have given Pasac Segundo over \$6,000. In conjunction with many area elementary and high schools, we have collected school, health supplies, and shoes for children of Pasac Segundo. We are extremely excited and proud to announce that the school in Guatemala should be finished by the end of this month. We also invite students to learn more about our building project in Guatemala and our organization by visiting table in lobby or <http://www.clea.sit.edu>.

COLIN ROBINSON. And I'd like to thank you, Congressman Sanders, for allowing us to be here.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor of the House of Representatives today in the name of democracy, in the name of hope, and in the name of peace.

As long-standing supporters of Israel, we recognize and respect Israel's unquestioned right to self-defense.

The United States has a long history of promoting and supporting democracies. It has long considered Israel its closest ally in the Middle East, because Israel is a democracy.

It is because of our passion for democracy that we cast votes against the procedural steps needed to bring House Resolution 392 to the floor.

These procedural steps prevented any amendments or any substitute resolutions to be considered by the Congress. We were not permitted to consider or debate either Senator LIEBERMAN's or Congressman DEFAZIO's language.

We were not given the opportunity to meet with our constituents and hear their thoughts and concerns on this divisive and complicated matter. Nor were there any hearings on this resolution. This is wrong and does not speak to debate that is central to our democratic process.

While we support House Resolution 392 in its final form, we have concerns that this resolution presents a one-sided view of a many-sided reality.

We cannot ignore the suffering of the Palestinian people and the loss of innocent civilians.

We cannot ignore the economic hardship the Palestinians have endured as they continue their attempts to create their own Democratic nation.

And we cannot ignore the physical damage done to Palestinian infrastructure in Jenin, in Ramallah and other towns in the West Bank.

Even with the Resolution's shortcomings, we believe it is critical to speak out against acts of terrorism that have claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Israeli civilians.

The United States is scarred by its own September 11 experience and we have a new and somber national consciousness of terrorism on our soil.

We continue to hold out hope that the Israelis and the Palestinians will be able to achieve the peace of the brave that has proven so elusive. We are confident that the United States will be a true partner for peace and help bring a 21st Century Marshall Plan of resources and hope to those who today carry a rage of desperation.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY SITE APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution to allow nuclear waste to be deposited at Yucca Mountain. And, I commend my colleague, Rep. SHELLEY BERKLEY, for her leadership on this issue.

The nuclear power industry and its White House allies are licking their chops at the prospect that Yucca Mountain will be approved as a dump site. They will try to sell this development as proof that the issue of nuclear waste has been solved. While the industry may claim that nuclear power and its waste are safe, the fact remains that Americans don't agree. They understand that nuclear waste management will continue to be a cause for concern even if the Yucca Mountain site is approved.

Burying radioactive nuclear waste is a bad idea . . . whether in Nevada or somewhere else. Aside from exposing Nevadans to the unknown effects of having radioactive waste in their backyard, the current plan will put our entire country at risk as waste travels through communities to reach the dump site. Accidents happen in every industry, but nowhere else are the consequences so severe, and so far-reaching as in the nuclear industry. The undeniable truth is that transporting waste over road or rail in order to bury it involves great, unjustifiable risks to human health and the environment. Even worse, the risks have only increased since September 11 as no one can deny that a traveling caravan of nuclear waste would be a prime terrorist target.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote against H.J. Res. 87.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF RICHARD REEVES

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of a good friend of mine, Richard Reeves. Richard has served on my hometown of Murfreesboro's City Council for 22 years, the last four years of which he served as mayor. Richard, however, has decided to retire from public service after a long and honorable career.

During his more than two decades on the City Council, Richard has helped guide the

Middle Tennessee city to prominence. Murfreesboro is home to a number of successful industries and one of the best universities in the nation, Middle Tennessee State University, my alma mater. Not only has the university flourished, but so has the city as a whole, with a population that has more than doubled in two decades. Richard can take credit for a lot of that success.

Despite his primary occupation as a successful businessman, Richard found time to serve Murfreesboro with distinction. He put in countless, and often thankless, hours helping city leaders make Murfreesboro a better place to live and work. Murfreesboro's quality of life is second to none. We have excellent schools, great parks—including the Stones River National Battlefield and Greenway—and good-paying jobs.

The people of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, could not have asked for a more dedicated public servant. His leadership and work ethic will be missed at City Hall. I cordially congratulate Richard on his distinguished career as a public servant and wish him well in future endeavors.

HONORING JOHN J. DIETZ OF MET- ROPOLITAN NASHVILLE-DAVID- SON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John J. Dietz of the Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Public School System. He is leaving his position this month in order to move closer to his family in Michigan.

As Deputy Director and Executive for Business and Auxiliary Services with the school system, Dietz has guided the business and financial matters for the district since 1994.

He is widely known and respected for his honesty, good character, and his careful and conservative fiscal management, as well as his dedication to serving the community and the district's 69,000 students.

Dietz and his wife Wendy have both contributed greatly to the school district—he in administrative services, and she, as a Metro teacher. A history buff, he enjoys reading and researching the Civil War during his leisure time.

He will take a new position next month as business manager for the Rochester, Michigan public schools. Dietz is to be commended for his outstanding efforts on behalf of the citizens of the 5th Congressional District through his professionalism and integrity. May he enjoy success in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING GARY POWERS, JR. FOR HIS DEDICATION TO BRINGING THE COLD WAR MUSEUM TO NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay trib-

ute to Mr. Gary Powers, Jr. for his work and dedication to bringing the Cold War Museum to Northern Virginia. In honor of his father, Mr. Gary Powers, Sr., Powers spent years to not only gain deserved recognition for his father, but for all who defended the United States and her allies during the Cold War.

Powers' father, Mr. Gary Powers, Sr., was a Korean War veteran who, in the 1960s, worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. In 1960, he was shot down over the USSR while piloting a U-2 spy plane and was convicted of spying and confined to a Russian prison until exchanged for a captured Russian spy. He subsequently found employment as a helicopter pilot for television station KNBC in Los Angeles. He died on August 1, 1977 in the crash of his helicopter and was buried in Section 11 of Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1962, espionage became big news as the "U2 Incident" grabbed world headlines. Powers was shot down as he flew the U-2, designed for covert surveillance, over Soviet territory, sparking one of the biggest international crises of the Cold War. The U.S. demanded his safe return. The USSR wanted to know what he was doing up there in the first place.

Shot down on May 1, 1960, Powers was held in prison for 2 years until 1962, when he was exchanged for Soviet Col. Rudolf Abel in the most dramatic East-West spy swap ever to occur in Cold War Berlin. Powers stepped on to the eastern end of the Berlin's Glienicke Bridge spanning the River Havel on February 10, 1962. At the other end of the bridge stood Colonel Rudolf Abel, a heavily muffled Soviet master-spy, seized earlier by U.S. security agents after setting up a Red spy network in New York in the late 1950s.

At a precisely arranged signal, the two men strode on to the bridge, marching purposefully towards one another, Powers heading west, Abel east. In the middle of the bridge they passed each other silently, with barely a nod of their heads. That spy-swap operation was to be the forerunner of many such East-West prisoner exchanges to take place on the Glienicke Bridge over the next 27 years in Berlin.

Criticized when he returned to the United States for not ensuring the revolutionary plane was destroyed or killing himself with poison, Powers was cold-shouldered by his former employers at the Central Intelligence Agency and eventually died in 1977 at the age of 47 when a television news helicopter he was piloting crashed in Los Angeles.

On May 1, 2000, U.S. officials presented Powers' family with the Prisoner-of-War Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the National Defense Service Medal during a ceremony held at the Beale Air Force Base, north of Sacramento, and home to the modern U.S. U-2 force. It marked the 40th anniversary of the incident.

Powers' son, Gary Powers Jr., spent years writing letters and holding meetings with officials to ensure this very deserved recognition took place. He saw the presentation of the medals as an important step in recognizing those who served their country during the Cold War. Powers wanted to make sure that his father was honored with the medals he deserved for being a prisoner of war, while at the same time ensuring those who served along with his father were recognized as well.

Powers, Jr., has devoted much of his time to seeing his father's memory honored, and

has worked endlessly to establish a permanent Cold War Museum to educate the public about the period of US-Soviet rivalry. As a direct result of all of his hard work and dedication, Northern Virginia will be the location for the new Cold War Museum.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish to congratulate and honor Mr. Powers, Jr., for his dedication to his father, to all Cold War veterans, to Northern Virginia, and to the nation. He certainly has earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding this remarkable man.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor the House of Representatives today in the name of democracy, in the name of hope, and in the name of peace.

As long-standing supporters of Israel, we recognize and respect Israel's unquestioned right to self-defense.

The United States has a long history of promoting and supporting democracies. It has long considered Israel its closest ally in the Middle East, because Israel is a democracy.

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And we cannot ignore the physical damage done to Palestinian infrastructure in Jenin, in Ramallah and other towns in the West Bank.

Even with the Resolution's shortcomings, we believe it is critical to speak out against acts of terrorism that have claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Israeli civilians.

The United States is scarred by its own September 11th experience and we have a new and somber national consciousness of terrorism on our soil.

We continue to hold out hope that the Israelis and the Palestinians will be able to achieve the peace of the brave that has proven so elusive. We are confident that the

United States will be a true partner for peace and help bring a 21st Century Marshall Plan of resources and hope to those who today carry a rage of desperation.

KEN KERSTOCK: HELPING ARENAC COUNTY GROW

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ken Kerstock upon his retirement after 21 years as the Arenac County, Michigan, Extension Director. Ken's exemplary work as an educator on agricultural issues has had a tremendously positive impact on the farming community and the learning seeds he has planted with future farmers will reap benefits for Arenac County for generations. Ken's wife, Kay, their son, Robert, and daughters, Linda and Sandra, also deserve high praise for their unselfish support of Ken's career.

After earning a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in vocational education from Michigan State University, Ken taught high school before beginning his career as an agricultural agent and district farm management agent with the MSU Extension in 1976. In 1981, Ken earned an appointment as the Arenac County Extension Director, a post he held until his retirement this year. Throughout his tenure, Ken used his extensive skills to implement and hone many educational programs for the agricultural community. Ken has consistently gone above and beyond the requirements of his job to reach out to hard-working farm families and others.

Growers often point to the many workshops and studies Ken undertook to improve farming techniques and assist farmers in finding new methods to increase efficiency and productivity. Ken modestly credits others for his success, but he has clearly been the engine that drove the Extension for many years. In particular, he worked with the crops and soil department on a three-year plant food study that demonstrated the effectiveness of fertilizer recommendations based on soil samples. He also organized numerous workshops and co-chaired an agricultural study tour of Mexico.

Ken also has been a sparkplug in the economic growth of the area by training future leaders and encouraging development. He organized and ran several leadership development programs, including one that led to the reactivation of the Arenac County Economic Development Corporation. In addition, he was instrumental in conducting county-wide assessments and he led the Arenac County Strategic Planning process. Ken's dedication and hard work also made a real difference in assisting local businesses in entrepreneurial training.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude to Ken Kerstock for his distinguished service and in wishing him success in all future endeavors. I am confident that the seeds he sowed on behalf of the agricultural community in Arenac County and throughout the state will continue to bear fruit for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE J. HOMCY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. George J. Homcy, President of the North Jersey Regional Chamber of Commerce. On Wednesday, May 7, 2002 he was honored at a dinner commemorating his career of service.

It is only fitting that he be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth, for his steadfast leadership in fostering economic growth in our region.

George Homcy's distinguished professional career began as a reporter with the Paterson Evening News in the late 1940s. He later moved to the American Forces Network as a journalist and broadcaster, covering American troop actions from the ground in Frankfurt, Munich, and Bremerhaven, Germany.

Upon his return home, George began twenty years as a reporter and eventually editor with the Herald News, located in Passaic, New Jersey.

In 1974, George Homcy began his work promoting the interests of the New Jersey business community. From 1974 to 1979, George served as Executive Vice President of the Clifton Chamber of Commerce. In 1980, through the foresight of George and others, the Clifton Chamber merged with the Passaic Area Chamber. As President of this newly formed organization, George continued the Chamber's growth by engineering another merger with the Passaic Valley Chambers of Commerce, forming the North Jersey Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, everyone in the chamber knows that small businesses have been the backbone of our nation's economy for over 200 years. George's stewardship of the North Jersey Chamber of Commerce has had an enduring impact on numerous New Jersey small businesses.

George J. Homcy's commitment to improving the lives of those in his community extends far beyond his work with the Chamber of Commerce. A board member with the United Way of Passaic Valley, the Boys' and Girls' Club of Clifton, and Saint Mary's Hospital in Passaic, George has touched countless lives. I am far from the first person to admire George's talent, as the New Jersey Supreme Court appointed him to the Passaic County District XI Ethics Committee.

While his retirement as President of the North Jersey Chamber will cause great sadness, it also is a time for celebration, as all those touched by George will honor him. I can say without hesitation that I am proud to represent George Homcy in Congress, but more importantly, I am honored to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the North Jersey Regional Chamber of Commerce, George's family and friends, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable efforts of George J. Homcy.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
HARRIETTE GLASNER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the memory of Mrs. Harriette Glasner.

For those of us who have dedicated our lives to progressive causes, we have suffered a great loss with the passing of South Florida legend Harriette Glasner. Mrs. Glasner founded ten major social, cultural and human rights organizations. Among those she founded or co-founded are the Palm Beach County chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, as well as the Urban League. For fifty years, Mrs. Glasner dedicated her life to the betterment of our society.

Harriette Glasner worked tirelessly for the desegregation of schools and colleges, lending financial assistance as well as her time and energy to the legal fight. She was also an early campaigner for the expansion of women's rights. Along the way, she founded the area's first Planned Parenthood office. Well-known among people active in the civil rights movement, Harriette truly never gave up and never gave in. Generations of South Floridians owe her a debt of gratitude. Her determination to fight for the rights of the poor and underprivileged and minorities have made our state and nation better places to live.

I knew Harriette Glasner through our work with the ACLU and the battles for integration. I will always remember her kind heart, keen intelligence and her selfless devotion to the many causes that have made our nation the great place it is today.

Mr. Speaker, while Harriette's passing will leave a huge hole in the front line of many progressive battles, I know the gap will be quickly filled by people who loved and respected her and are determined to continue the fights she started. That is the best tribute that can be offered for this life very well lived.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY
SITE APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, today the House will vote on H. Res. 87, which will allow the Department of Energy to move forward in the process of licensing Yucca Mountain as a repository for nuclear waste. Although I realize we must find an answer for storing all of the Nation's nuclear waste, including that in Wisconsin, I oppose this resolution for several reasons.

Over the last two decades, there have been thousands of shipments of nuclear waste on the highways and railways that crisscross America. If Yucca Mountain is granted a license to receive nuclear waste, the number of shipments could increase exponentially. This is particularly troubling because the proposed routes will pass through 44 states and over 700 counties—passing near our schools,

churches, and homes, including possibly in my district. While there have been few accidents when moving waste through the U.S. to date, increasing shipments by the thousands will only increase the probability of a devastating catastrophe. The events on September 11 have shown that anything is possible, and that common mishaps are not the only aspects we should take into account when examining safety and security concerns.

Throughout the debate over Yucca Mountain, numerous questions have been raised about the lack of sound science that went in to deeming the site safe. Very early in the testing process, the DOE retroactively changed the rules for site eligibility after it became apparent that the original rules could not be met for Yucca Mountain. Ever since, the credibility of the scientific standards and evidence has gotten progressively worse. Three federal agencies have released reports about Yucca Mountain—all three reports have expressed doubts and grave concerns about the suitability of the site.

The General Accounting Office (GAO), which is the investigative office of the federal government, indicated there are more than 293 unresolved technical issues with Yucca Mountain, including how quickly the containers will leak radioactive waste, the amount and speed of water flowing through the waste area, and the likelihood of volcanic activity. The GAO has yet to get answers to the majority of these questions. I believe we have no choice but to make certain we base this decision on sound science. Nuclear waste is the most dangerous substance we have ever created and will be deadly for thousands of years. Future generations depend on us being absolutely sure Yucca Mountain is safe, and science has not concluded that as yet.

Despite the scientific uncertainties of storing and shipping nuclear waste, there has been a sense of urgency to move forward with a decision on Yucca Mountain. Unfortunately, I believe this urgency has been fueled by politics—not by policy concerns regarding nuclear waste. The Nuclear Policy Act amendments of 1987 eliminated alternative sites, and billions of dollars have been devoted to Yucca Mountain. I believe some legislators may feel there is no turning back because of the tremendous federal resources that have already been invested in the project. Money concerns should not come before any policy that could threaten public safety.

Furthermore, DOE Secretary, Spencer Abraham, has also said that a permanent site for nuclear waste will promote energy security by removing a roadblock to expanding nuclear power. This also leads me to believe that the sense of urgency is not driven by an understanding of the properties of the Yucca Mountain site, but rather larger-scale issues regarding America's overall energy policies. Approving Yucca Mountain could lead to an unfettered expansion of nuclear power at a time when I believe we can be promoting other energy sources—like renewable and alternative energy technologies—that do not have harmful bi-products and the potential for devastating long-term effects on the health of our environment and on our families.

Overall, I believe Congress is rushing to make this decision regarding Yucca Mountain a decision that our future generations may have to live with for thousands of years. It is inevitable that storing nuclear waste at Yucca

Mountain will continue to be a contentious issue over the next several years as technical details are sorted out. It is my hope that an expanded national debate on this issue will eventually lead to a final decision based on the merits of sound science, rather than on political arguments or larger-scale energy policy issues.

AMERICA'S EDUCATIONAL
STRENGTHS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, in the Outlook section of the Washington Post for Sunday, May 4, Gerald Bracey, has an interesting article which makes a point that I have long thought an important one—namely, that while it has become fashionable to denigrate the quality of public education in America across the board, our country has consistently led the world economically in part because we have done so well in precisely those areas of the economy where an educated workforce is the greatest asset. And as Mr. Bracey points out, those who have argued that our entire public educational system is failing have consistently argued that is would undermined our economic performance, undeterred by the fact that our economic performance has been so good.

As Bracey's article points out, "in the early 1990s, as the economy tanked and a recession set in, many variations of a 'lousy-schools-are-producing-a-lousy-workforce-and-it's-killing-us-in-the-global-marketplace' could be heard. But these slackers somehow managed to turn things around. The American economy: 'back on top was the way the New York summed up the turnaround in February 1994 well, if the schools took the rap when they went south, surely they would be praised when the economy boomed, right? hardly.'"

As Mr. Bracey notes, we do have problems with our school systems, particularly the inequality in which many of our schools in the urban and in some rural areas fall far below standard. Clearly we have to do a better job of helping the educational system overcome the social problems that contribute to the educational difficulties that many students face, and it is our obligation as a society committed to fairness to do far more here, both in and out of school. But the general point remains—if our school system overall was doing such a poor job, it is hard to understand how our economy could be doing so well in the areas where education is key. Because this question is so central to our deliberations, I ask that Mr. Bracey's article be printed here.

WHY DO WE SCAPEGOAT THE SCHOOLS?

(By Gerald W. Bracey)

There's no pleasing some people, even when they get what they want. So why do we keep listening to them?

For almost 20 years now, some of our most prominent business leaders and politicians have sounded the same alarm about the nation's public schools. It began in earnest with that 1983 golden treasury of selected, spun and distorted education statistics, "A Nation At Risk," whose authors wrote, "If only to keep and improve on the slim competitive edge we retain in world markets, we

must dedicate ourselves to the reform of our educational system. . . ." The document tightly yoked our economic position in the world to how well or poorly students bubbled in answer sheets on standardized tests.

And it continued in September 2000, when a national commission on math and science teaching headed by former Ohio senator John Glenn issued a report titled "Before It's Too Late." It asked, rhetorically, "In an integrated, global economy . . . will our children be able to compete?" The report's entirely predictable answer: Not if we don't improve schools "before it's too late" (emphasis in the original report).

So you might think that these Chicken Littles would be firing up their fax machines and e-mailing everywhere to report the following hot news from the World Economic Forum's "Global Competitiveness Report, 2001-2002": The United States ranks second in the organization's Current Competitiveness Index, trailing only Finland.

The CCI isn't just another survey. It is a sophisticated rating system derived from a wide variety of economic and other factors, including education data. And the World Economic Forum (or WEF) isn't some minor league player. Its annual conference draws a cross-section of the planet's most powerful political and business leaders—including some of the people so concerned about America's schools.

But the naysayers haven't trumpeted the CCI ranking. Indeed, I wouldn't be surprised if, sometime soon, a leading member of Congress or the business community declares that we must reform our educational system to maintain our competitive edge—or best those pesky Finns.

'Twas ever thus. Schools often takes the hit for bad turns of events, but somehow never get the credit for upturns. Remember 1957? The Russians launched Sputnik, the first man-made satellite to orbit Earth. When people asked how we could lose the race to space, public schools were an easy target. Life magazine ran a five-part series on the "Crisis in Education." Major universities assumed the role of rescuers to develop modern, challenging textbooks. In 1969, America put a man on the moon, a destination that the Russians—with their allegedly superior scientists—never reached. Did a magazine declare an end to the "crisis" in education? Do pigs fly?

I don't mean to suggest, of course, that America's public schools are perfect. The dreary state of some urban and poor rural school systems is well documented. But I've been following the angst over our competitive capabilities since the 1983 report, and I've noticed the same pattern. In the early 1990s, as the economy tanked and a recession set in, many variations of "lousy-schools-are-producing-a-lousy-workforce-and-it's-killing-us-in-the-global-marketplace" could be heard. But these slackers somehow managed to turn things around: By early 1994, many publications featured banner headlines about the recovery that later became the longest sustained period of growth in the nation's history. "The American Economy: Back on Top" was the way that the New York Times summed up the turnabout in Feb. 1994.

Well, if the schools took the rap when the economy went south, surely they would be praised when the economy boomed, right? Hardly. A mere three months after the Times story appeared, IBM CEO Louis V. Gerstner Jr., wrote an op-ed for the Times headlined "Our Schools Are Failing." They are failing, said Gerstner, because they are not producing students who can compete with their international peers.

The bashers have kept up their drumbeat. Intel CEO Craig R. Barrett, Texas Instru-

ments CEO Thomas Engibous, State Farm Insurance CEO Edward Rust and then-Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson all took to the nation's op-ed pages in 2000 and 2001 to lament the threat that our education system poses to our competitiveness. Gerstner made an encore appearance on the Times op-ed page in March, expressing his continuing concern that our schools will "limit our competitive position in the global marketplace."

None of these fine gentlemen provided any data on the relationship between the economy's health and the performance of schools. Our long economic boom suggests there isn't one—or that our schools are better than the critics claim. But, there is a broader, more objective means of looking for any relationship. The Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) provides test scores for 41 nations, including the United States. Thirty-eight of those countries are ranked on the World Economic Forum's CCI. It's a simple statistical matter to correlate the test scores with the CCI.

There is little correlation. The United States is 29th in mathematics, but second in competitiveness. Korea is third in mathematics, but 27th in competitiveness. And so forth. If the two lists had matched, place for place, that would produce a perfect correlation of +1.0. But because some countries are high on competitiveness and low on test scores (and vice versa), the actual correlation is +.23. In the world of statistics, this is considered quite small.

Actually, even that small correlation is misleadingly high: Seven countries are low on both variables, creating what little relationship there is. If these seven nations are removed from the calculation, the correlation between test scores and competitiveness actually becomes negative, meaning that higher test scores are slightly associated with lower competitiveness.

The education variables in the index include: the quality of schools; the TIMSS scores; the number of years of education and the proportion of the country's population attending college (these two are variables in which the United States excels); and survey rankings from executives who, the World Economic Forum claims, have "international perspectives." The WEF ranked U.S. schools 27th of the 75 nations—not exactly eye-popping, but given all of the horrible things said about American schools in the past 25 years, perhaps surprisingly high. (The United States looked particularly bad in one WEF category; the difference in quality between rich and poor schools. We finished 42nd, lower than any other developed nation. That is shameful in a country as rich as ours.)

So, if 26 nations have better schools, how did we earn our No. 2 overall competitiveness ranking? The WEF uses dozens of variables from many sectors, and the United States rates well across the board. One important consideration is the "brain drain" factor. Our scientists and engineers stay here, earning us a top ranking in this category. No other country, not even Finland, came close on this measurement.

But what really caught my eye were the top U.S. scores on a set of variables that make up what the WEF calls "National Innovation Capacity." Innovation variables are critical to competitiveness, according to the WEF. Ten years ago, the competitive edge was gained by nations that could lower costs and raise quality. Virtually all developed countries have accomplished this, the WEF report asserts, and thus "competitive advantage must come from the ability to create and then commercialize new products and processes, shifting the technology frontier as fast as rivals can catch up."

Innovation is itself a complicated affair, but my guess is that it is not linked to test scores. If anything, too much testing discourages innovative thinking.

American schools, believe it or not, have developed a culture that encourages innovative thinking. How many other cultures do that? A 2001 op-ed in The Washington Post was titled "At Least Our Kids Ask Questions." In the essay, author Amy Biancolli described her travails in trying to get Scottish students to discuss Shakespeare. She found that they weren't used to being allowed to express their opinions or having them valued. I had the same experience when I taught college students in Hong Kong. Years later, I mentioned this to a professor in Taiwan who said that even today, "professors' questions are often met with stony silence."

We take our questioning culture so much for granted that we don't even notice it until we encounter another country that doesn't have it. A 2001 New York Times article discussed, in the words of Japanese scientists, why Americans win so many Nobel prizes while the Japanese win so few. The Japanese scientists provided a number of reasons, but the one they cited as most important was peer review. Before American scientists publish their research, they submit it to the scrutiny—questioning—of other researchers. Japanese culture discourages this kind of direct confrontation; one Japanese scientist recalled his days in the United States, when he would watch scholars—good friends—engage in furious battles, challenging and testing each other's assumptions and logic. That would never happen in Japan, he told the Times reporter.

Japan's culture of cooperation and consensus makes for a more civil society than we find here, but our combative culture leaves us with an edge in creativity. We should think more than twice before we tinker too much with an educational system that encourages questioning. We won't benefit from one that idolizes high test scores.

It could put our very competitiveness as a nation at risk.

TRIBUTES TO HARRY STEPANIAN, WALTER McNAMARA, LARRY JAKUBOWICZ, AND MARTY GANNON, CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTERS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Harry Stepanian, Walter McNamara, Larry Jakubowicz, and Marty Gannon, firefighters from the town of Clinton, Massachusetts who have announced their retirement after many years of dedicated service.

These men put their lives on the line every day to protect the citizens of Clinton. Because of their efforts through the years, many lives and a great deal of property have been saved, whether it was from entering a burning building or performing as an Emergency Medical Technician.

The town of Clinton is very fortunate to have an outstanding fire department. As we all know—and as the tragedies of September 11th reminded us—the job of a firefighter is not an easy one. It takes a special person to perform the duties required of firefighters. That duty involves risking their lives every day.

Through the years, these men and their colleagues have performed admirably. Their community is grateful for their work, and so am I.

It is a pleasure to recognize these outstanding men, and I know the entire House joins me in extending our best wishes to them and to their families for a happy and healthy retirement.

H.J. RES. 87

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 8, I voted to make Yucca Mountain, a remote location in the desert of Nevada, our nation's depository for high level nuclear waste. I based my support for Yucca Mountain on a \$19 billion taxpayer investment over 24 years of some of the most comprehensive scientific investigation ever conducted by our nation.

We promised the public back in 1982 in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act that the Federal government would provide a single national repository for the quickly accumulating radioactive waste. This day has been a long time coming, and we can wait no longer.

Since the dawn of the nuclear age in the 1940s, nuclear waste has been accumulating, and it has been stored in temporary locations across the country—131 temporary sites in 39 states, including New Jersey.

Temporary storage of highly radioactive nuclear waste is dangerous—there's no two ways about it. We need a single, safe, secure location to contain spent nuclear fuel and our nation's dismantled nuclear arms. Quite simply, it is a matter of public health and safety, and it is in the best interests of our national security.

Yucca Mountain is located in the Nevada desert, some 1353 square miles of land, an area larger than the state of Rhode Island. It is remote, and had been used as a nuclear test site.

I have visited Yucca Mountain, since I serve on the Energy Appropriations Subcommittee which has been responsible for overseeing the funding of this critical project. During my inspection of the site, I was taken inside the mountain for almost five miles. I also learned that when nuclear waste is contained inside Yucca Mountain, it will be stored in tunnels 1000 feet below the desert floor. Yucca Mountain is so safe, scientists and engineers have determined that with its arid and geologically stable setting, even under the worst scenario, Yucca Mountain would meet EPA standards for radiation for 10,000 years! Clearly, Yucca Mountain will pay dividends, and then some, on the taxpayers' investment.

Nuclear energy has been proven to be an effective, safe, clean energy source. In fact, in New Jersey where there are two nuclear sites, nearly half of our state's electricity is produced by nuclear power. Nationwide, it is now the second largest source of electricity.

While nuclear energy continues to have its supporters and its critics, the fact is it is here to stay. As such, we need to deal with it, most especially radioactive waste. Yucca Mountain is the answer.

161 million Americans live within 75 miles of radioactive nuclear waste. Do we leave radio-

active waste to decay in temporary storage units at hundreds of locations across the country? Do we wait for highly radioactive toxins to possibly seep into our groundwater? Do we put our national security at risk by leaving spent nuclear fuel in temporary containers?

No, we side with science. Yucca Mountain, from the standpoint of protecting the nation's health as well as our security, represents the best, most comprehensive option for containing America's nuclear waste.

We can no longer afford to wait.

SAVING AMERICA'S STEEL INDUSTRY

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Providing for disposition of H.J. Res. 84, Disapproving the action taken by the President under Section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 transmitted to the Congress on March 5, 2002.

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule and, more importantly, in support of our steel industry that was on the brink of collapse.

I want to use my time to address one of the most vital issues facing the industry today: legacy costs. As scores of companies have been forced to declare Chapter 11 bankruptcy since the flood of steel imports began hitting our shores in 1997, retirement promises these companies made, in many cases, have been broken. These broken promises have left many steel retirees, through no fault of their own, without the health and other benefits they had been counting on their entire working lives.

That is why I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4646, the Steel Industry Legacy Relief Act. This groundbreaking legislation will ensure that the promises made to the thousands of steel retirees are kept.

Under this legislation, the Federal Government will create and support a program of health insurance for the retirees of steel, iron ore, and coke companies. Similar to the way the Federal Government bolstered the health care safety net for retired mine-workers, it is time for the government to step up to the plate and help steel workers.

The Administration has taken a very important first step. By imposing temporary tariffs on a broad range of steel products for up to 3 years, the Administration has given the industry an extraordinary opportunity to get back on its feet.

While the actions by the Administration were unprecedented, by themselves, they are insufficient to fully help the industry recover. We must enact H.R. 4646 into law and put the industry on a sound financial footing once and for all.

Finally, let me say, I recognize that we live in a global economy and that the United States must be economically engaged with the rest of the world. However, we must not let the ideology of free trade trump all other values and blind us to the inequities that trade imposes on many sectors of our economy.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the rule.

RECOGNIZING THE INVALUABLE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MR. JIM CROW

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my dear friend Jim Crow, whose hard work has proven invaluable, not only to the people of Shelby County and Tennessee's 8th District, but also to the state of Tennessee and indeed the nation. I have had the pleasure of working alongside Jim since before I came to Washington back in 1989. His public service stretches back even farther than that.

Jim was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1934. His father being in construction, the family moved where the work was—from Memphis to Ohio, then to Michigan. After also living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Jim moved back to Shelby County in 1959 and married Shirley Roberts the following year. They bought a house in Frayser, where their family saw the addition of two children, Elizabeth—now Elizabeth Vaughn—and James. The family relocated to Millington, Tennessee, in 1975.

Jim is retired from International Harvester, where he worked for 26 years and served as a union steward for the United Auto Workers. It was during this time that he became active in politics and the Shelby County Democratic Party.

In 1969, Jim was instrumental in helping bring my predecessor, Mr. Ed Jones, to this House of Representatives. Jim helped establish the first Congressional office in Shelby County for the 8th District and operated the office on a voluntary basis. Five years later, Mr. Jones hired Jim Crow as a field representative for Memphis and Shelby County. When I came to Washington 15 years after that, I was lucky to have Jim stay on board as a field representative, the position from which he is now retiring.

Jim has always been very active in the community, serving in such organizations as the Millington Industrial Development Board, the Millington Airport Authority, the Frayser Exchange Club, the Navy League and the Millington Chamber of Commerce, which once named him Man of the Year.

Millington was formerly home of the Navy Air Technical Training Center, but during the base restructuring in the early 1990s, that function was moved elsewhere. Jim, with his involvement in the community and on the base, followed the base's transition as it became known as Naval Support Activity Mid-South, currently housing the Navy Bureau of Personnel. As field representative, Jim was active in the communication involved with the change.

Later this month, he will retire his position as a field representative for the 8th Congressional District. He will spend more time with his family, including his grandchildren, Kali and Nicholas, and I am certain he will continue to stay active in our community.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that you and our colleagues recognize the outstanding, selfless public service Jim has offered over the years. All the best wishes are with my friend Jim Crow as he begins an exciting new chapter in his life.

ADDRESS OF AMBASSADOR GÉZA JESZENSZKY ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VISIT TO AMERICA BY HUNGARIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER LAJOS KOSSUTH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago the Hungarian embassy, along with the American Hungarian Federation of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., and the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America, organized a meeting to honor Lajos Kossuth, the influential Hungarian statesman and an advocate for democratic ideals in Hungary in the middle of the nineteenth century.

The event commemorated Kossuth's celebrated visit to America 150 years ago. Following an invitation from the President of the United States, Kossuth arrived in New York City on December 5, 1851, marking the beginning of a six-month tour of the country.

During his time here, Kossuth gave several hundred speeches throughout the United States, including separate addresses in both houses of Congress. Kossuth received praise by many notable American political leaders and intellectuals, including William Lloyd Garrison, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Horace Greeley, and Abraham Lincoln. In response to Kossuth's visit, approximately 250 poems, dozens of books, hundreds of pamphlets, and thousands of editorials were written about him.

Mr. Speaker, since I was born in Hungary, the legacy of Lajos Kossuth holds a special place in my heart. But by no means are the ideals and values of this noble man limited to a specific country. He devoted his life to fight for and defend democracy, freedom, and human liberties. Kossuth has been named, alongside George Washington, as a symbol of "universal human values." I do not hesitate to echo this sentiment and encourage all of us to learn more about Kossuth and the causes he held dear.

In that vein, I would like to share with my colleagues the excellent speech given by the Hungarian Ambassador to the United States Géza Jeszenszky at the event to honor Kossuth. Jeszenszky's speech, entitled, "150 Years of Influence of Louis Kossuth, Governor-President of Hungary," gives an excellent overview of Kossuth's visit to the United States and its lasting influence on America. I would like to share his remarks with my colleagues, and request that they be placed in the RECORD.

150 YEARS OF INFLUENCE OF LOUIS KOSSUTH, GOVERNOR-PRESIDENT OF HUNGARY

(By Ambassador Géza Jeszenszky)

Congressman Lantos, Mrs. Lantos, Your Excellency Ambassador Poptodorova, distinguished other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Leaders of the American Hungarian community, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Friends:

Senator Seward of New York described Kossuth in the U.S. Senate on Dec. 8, 1851 as "a personage whose name and fame at this time fills the eye and ear of the world."

Hungary had many great statesmen and other luminaries in her checkered history, but Kossuth stands out among them. Like George Washington, he was regarded as the

father of the nation already in his lifetime. He was the first Hungarian political leader to make it into world history, on his visits he was admired and welcomed in England, France, the U.S. and in Italy by enthusiastic crowds. At least 100,000 turned out to greet him in New York City on Broadway. He was a star matched by few politicians.

Kossuth is considered as one of the great orators of all times. He could capture his audience in Hungarian, German, Latin and English, too. He also knew a lot about the history and constitution of America. As the editor of the first popular daily newspaper in Hungary he established the reputation of the U.S. as a most successful country and a political model.

The democratic revolution in 1848, inspired and led by Kossuth, transformed Hungary from a neglected and oppressed province of the Habsburgs into a modern constitutional and independent state. The armed attack on it by the Habsburg Army led to a War of Independence, and it was followed with keen interest by millions in Europe and America. Following a series of spectacular victories in the spring the Hungarian Parliament elected Kossuth Governor-President on April 14, 1849. The U.S. sent an envoy, Mr. Dudley Mann, with the intention of recognizing Hungary's independence. That was forestalled by the Russian intervention—for the first, but not for the last time! President Zachary Taylor was an enthusiastic supporter of the cause of Hungary—his reports and instructions to the Senate at the end of 1849 testify that.

The bloody reprisals following the surrender of the Hungarian Army in August 1849 even increased the sympathy worldwide—this is another painful parallel with 1956.

There were a number of prominent members of the U.S. Congress who took a very strong interest in Hungary in those days, most notably Senator Cass of Michigan (who in early 1850 moved to break diplomatic relations with Austria), and Senator Webster of Massachusetts. There was even a move in the House of Representatives to censure the President and the Secretary of State for failing to recognize the independence of Hungary in due time.

The death of President Taylor was a blow to the Hungarians as well. His successor, President Fillmore was more reserved, but his Secretary of State became Webster, an admirer of Kossuth. In Spring 1851 Senator Foot of Mississippi moved to send a warship for Kossuth to bring him over to the States from his exile in Turkey. The Senate concurred, and the frigate Mississippi was dispatched.

Kossuth arrived in New York on December 4, 1851. He was welcomed by huge crowds, both there and subsequently in Philadelphia and Baltimore. The exiled Head of State came to the United States with far higher aims than raising money for the continuation of the Hungarian War of Independence. While he fully understood why the Founding Fathers of the Republic warned against entangling alliances, he hoped to bring about a fundamental change in U.S. foreign policy: to convince the country that the time came for taking an active role in international affairs, commensurate with its strength, and to make Americans realize the interdependence of Europe and the U.S., that the Atlantic was no longer a barrier but rather a link, that freedom and democracy in Europe was also a vital interest for the American Republic, and, finally, that the two English-speaking countries must be allied so that they could jointly prevent tyrannical, authoritarian countries like Russia from suppressing the striving of subject nations for freedom.

The effort to bring about a fundamental change in U.S. foreign policy, to abandon

neutrality and isolationism was bound to fail in 1852—but wasn't Kossuth's only a premature but sound idea? Sixty-six years later, in 1917, the U.S. acted along such lines, and ninety years later the Atlantic Charter came to embody the principles first advocated by the Hungarian leader.

While Kossuth's first speeches in New York were received most warmly by crowded audiences, they cooled the enthusiasm of quite a few in Congress. On Dec. 2, 1851 the President expressed his wish that Congress should decide on how to receive the Hungarian statesman. A heated debate started on the following day. Foote's move for an official reception was opposed by Southern Democrats and by radical free-soilers, who saw a contradiction between welcoming a foreign freedom-fighter while denying freedom to slaves. Conservatives denounced Kossuth as a revolutionary. The debate ran for eight days! Charles Sumner of Massachusetts called Kossuth "a living Washington," while Senator Seward of New York gave a moving testimony of his significance, as follows: "Mr. President, in the course of human events, we see the nations of Europe struggling to throw off the despotic systems of government, and attempting to establish a government based upon the principles of republicanism or of constitutional monarchy. Whenever such efforts are made, it invariably happens that the existing despotisms of Europe endeavor to suppress the high and holy endeavor, and to subdue the people by whom it is made. The consequence is that despotism has one common cause; and it results that the cause of civil and constitutional liberty has, in all countries, become one common cause—the common cause of mankind against despotism. Now, whatever nation leads the way at any time—at any crisis—in this contest for civil liberty, it becomes, as we perceive, the representative of all the nations of the earth. We once occupied that noble and interesting position, and we engaged the sympathies of civilized men throughout the world. No one can deny that now, or recently, Hungary took that position. We had a messenger on the spot ready to acknowledge her independence; and this our own proceeding show that we, in common with the friends of civil liberty elsewhere, hailed Hungary as such a representative of the nations of the earth."

Senator Cass said that while denouncing Russia's intervention was morally imperative, it did not mean that the U.S. would send a fleet to European waters. Stephen Douglas called attention to the fact that Kossuth challenged European absolutism, the antipode of the basic principles the U.S. had been built upon and that he was a representative of world freedom. (Today we might use the expression "a world whole and free.") Finally on Dec. 12 the Senate adopted Seward's motion with Shield's (Ill.) modification: Kossuth was to be received exactly like Lafayette had been. There was 36 vote for that and 6—from the South—against. The House of Representatives concurred on Dec. 15: 181 for and 16 against, with Rep. Smith from Alabama saying that if Kossuth continued to agitate against friendly Austria he should be arrested! All that shows that while the country came under the spell of the Hungarian leader, Congress overwhelmingly concurring, sectional interests and ideological concerns acted as a brake even in what was hardly more than a symbolic gesture.

Kossuth's train arrived in Washington on Dec. 30. He was received by Senators Shield and Seward. Secretary Webster immediately visited him in his hotel, followed by the mayor and a large number of politicians and various associations, delegations. The House was still debating about the details of his reception. On the next day, Dec. 31, Kossuth

called upon President Fillmore. In a masterly speech he presented the case of Hungary, calling for help. The President expected only a courtesy call, so in his answer he told that he personally sympathized with Hungarian independence, but the policy of the Union would not abandon the traditions. This should not have been a surprise, but nevertheless it was a cold shower for Kossuth.

On Jan. 7 Cass, Shields and Seward presented him to the Senate, and on the same day the House appointed three members to show him to the House. Kossuth's answer to the welcoming words of the Speaker was brief but telling. "It is a remarkable fact in the history of mankind, that while, through all the past, honors were bestowed upon glory, and glory was attached only to success, the legislative authorities of this great republic bestow the highest honors upon a persecuted exile, not conspicuous by glory, not favored by success, but engaged in a just cause."

There is a triumph of republican principles in this fact. Sir, in my own and my country's name, I thank the House of Representatives of the United States for the honor of this cordial welcome."

On that evening a banquet was given by both Houses in Kossuth's honor, with 250 attending, including Webster and two other members of the cabinet. Kossuth gave a non-controversial speech: "Happy is your great country, Sir, for being so warmly attached to that great principle of self-government. Upon this foundation your fathers raised a home for freedom more glorious than the world has ever seen. Happy is your great country, Sir, that it was selected by the blessing of the Lord to prove the glorious practicability of a federative union of many sovereign states, all preserving their state-rights and their self-government, and yet united in one. Every star beaming with its own lustre, but altogether one constellation on mankind's canopy."

Despite a few dissenting voices Kossuth's reception in Congress was exceptional in both form and substance. Since the political aims of the Hungarian leader could not be met by the legislature, he took his message to the country, embarking on a tour that took him as far as St. Louis in the West, New Orleans in the South and Boston in the North. There were moving outpourings of sympathy, and occasionally even the idea of intervention was endorsed. Much of the financial contributions were, however, spent by the local hosts on lavish hospitality—to the grief of Governor Kossuth.

In an epilogue added to the reprinted version of a volume of Kossuth's speeches published in 1852 Professor Béla Várdy reminds us: "Millions of Americans came under his spell . . . dozens of books, hundreds of pamphlets, and thousands of articles and essays, as well as nearly two hundred poems were written to him or about him." The names of Emerson, Longfellow, Horace Greeley, James Russel Lowell, Harriet Beecher Stowe stand out among those authors. But undoubtedly the greatest person who was inspired by the exiled Hungarian leader was Abraham Lincoln. On January 9, 1852, Lincoln said in the legislature of Illinois: "We recognize in Governor Kossuth of Hungary the most worthy and distinguished representative of the cause of civil and religious liberty on the continent of Europe."

Perhaps the most memorable speech of Kossuth was delivered in Columbus, Ohio, to the legislature on February 7: "Almost every century has had one predominant idea which imparted a common direction to the activity of nations. This predominant idea is the spirit of the age, invisible yet omnipresent, impregnable, all-pervading, scorned, abused,

opposed yet omnipotent. The spirit of our age is Democracy. All for the people and all by the people. Nothing about the people without the people. That is democracy, and that is the ruling tendency of the spirit of our age." It is quite probable that these words were remembered by Lincoln, as the Gettysburg Address echoes Kossuth's definition of democracy.

The influence of Kossuth in the U.S. did not come to an end with his departure in July 1852. His contemporaries, the crowds and also the politicians remembered him for a long time. Many children were named after him. Generations of Americans grew up associating Hungary with Kossuth and liberty. Both Theodore and Franklin Delano Roosevelt showed a remarkable knowledge of and sympathy to Hungary, most probably going back to 1848 and Kossuth's memory.

In the late 19th and early 20th century hundreds of thousands of poor Hungarians arrived in the U.S. in search of employment and a better life. Most of them stayed here. For these downtrodden immigrant "Hunkies" Kossuth represented a hero, known and respected by their new country, no wonder that they named streets and buildings after him and erected statues to him, in Cleveland, New York, Pittsburgh and elsewhere. In World War II, the warship "U.S.S. Kossuth" was built on the donations of Hungarian-Americans.

The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 showed that Kossuth's spirit remained a force inspiring the people of Hungary. The symbol of the Revolution was the coat-of-arms used by Kossuth. The new fight of the Hungarians for freedom re-awakened sympathy throughout the U.S. Following its suppression, against by Russian arms, tens of Hungarian refugees were admitted and welcomed by America. Soon a stamp of Kossuth was issued in the "Champions of Liberty" series. Thirty-three years later the end of communism and Hungary's role in it was the realization of Kossuth's dreams of an independent and democratic country. Today Hungary is trying to live up to the high standards set by its great son.

In 1990, in the middle of another, now bloodless, Hungarian revolution, on the initiative of Congressman and Mrs. Annette Lantos, a bust was unveiled in the Capitol in a moving ceremony in the Rotunda. And now, 150 years after the visit of Governor-President Kossuth dozens of commemorations are held in the U.S. reminding the present generation of those stirring times. I am extremely grateful to the American people for having preserved the memory of our great leader and for giving me this unique opportunity to speak in this magnificent institution, recalling when Kossuth and Hungary filled the pages of the Congressional Record.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VERY
REV. PROTOPRESBYTER STEPHEN
DUTKE ON THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION**

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the Very Rev. Protopresbyter Stephen Dutke in celebration of his 60th anniversary of the Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. I am pleased to congratulate Father Dutke for his 60 years of distinguished service.

Father Dutke was born on January 3, 1917 in Nesquehoning, Pa, the son of Damian and Susan Dutke. He grew up in Elizabeth, NJ and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and Union Junior College in Cranford, NJ. He studied theology at the Diocesan Seminary of Christ the Saviour Seminary graduating in 1942. He married Mary Dzuback of Bayonne on May 3, 1942 and was ordained as an Orthodox priest by Bishop Orestes on May 10, 1942.

Father Dutke organized St. Mary's Church in Buffalo, NY serving as its first pastor. He also served as pastor to St. Michael's Church in Freeland, PA from November of 1947 to August of 1961, where he oversaw the construction of the new rectory, the decorating of the church and the construction of the parish recreation center in 1959. He was assigned to St. Michael's Church in Binghamton, NY in August of 1961, where he served as pastor until July of 1991 and continues to serve as pastor emeritus.

At St. Michael's, he spearheaded a \$200,000 renovation project of the church for its 60th anniversary in 1964 as well as the creation of classrooms and a library for the Church School program at the recreation center. Throughout his pastorate, he distinguished himself by his selfless ministry to those who are ill and afflicted at home, local hospitals and nursing homes. He fostered 12 vocations to the Holy Priesthood including four men from Freeland and eight from Binghamton. For more than three decades, he served as director of the annual Diocesan Altar Boys Retreat, encouraging many boys to strengthen their faith and service to the church, both as laypeople and priests.

Father Dutke served as Director of the Diocesan Priests' Pension Plan, a member of the Diocesan Liturgical Music Commission, as a member of the Diocesan Consistory and Board of Trustees for more than 30 years. His All-Holiness Patriarch Dimitrios designated him as a Proto-Priest in 1966 and as a Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 1989. Since his retirement in 1991, he has continued to assist at St. Michael's, serving one of the Sunday Liturgies, managing the annual Pirohi Project and continuing his pastoral work through visiting the sick at hospitals and nursing homes.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to salute Father Dutke for his many years of distinguished service to our community. It is my pleasure to join Father Dutke's friends, family and congregation in extending my deepest appreciation for his outstanding service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 129 I was unavoidably detained with other matters. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN HONOR OF THE UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT OF NEW YORK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a vital community organization that has affected real change in its short history.

On May 10, 1992, Reverend Zachary G. Jones held its first worship service in the Charles Angel room of the New York City Lesbian and Gay Community Center. On that historic Sunday afternoon, Reverend Jones ministered to approximately 15 people. The group heard what continues to be the core message of the church to this day, "God is Love and Love is for everyone" and "Let nothing or no one separate you from the Love of God". During that time many people with alternative lifestyles felt that they were turned away from their traditional houses of worship because of their orientation and the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since that first service, now Bishop Zachary G. Jones has built a congregation of more than 600 members and over 200,000 people of faith from New York City and around the world have attended his services. In addition, today, Unity Fellowship Church Movement of New York has a permanent location at 230 Classon Avenue in Brooklyn. Clearly, this church has filled a void.

Unity Fellowship Church Movement of New York's mission states that it is a social justice ministry that teaches freedom on all levels of racial, sexual, religious and social-economic oppression. They carry out their mission through a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of the community and their parishioners, such as, their hunger program which has fed over 5,000 homeless individuals and families; their creation of the "Unity in Community Week" to publicly address homophobia, health education, racism, and violence based on sexual orientation; "Unity fellowship breaking ground" an organization dedicated to providing social services to support gay and lesbian youth in Brooklyn. This is the first organization of color in New York dedicated to the needs of the Lesbian and Gay community on a regular basis.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Zachary G. Jones fulfills his mission every day as he reaches out to people outside of the regular church setting who share a commitment to God but have lacked the opportunity to practice their faith freely because of their sexual orientation. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this unique and vital organization on its 10th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS HAAS

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of the House the bravery of Chris Haas, a sixth grader who is captain of the Safety Patrol at North Hartsville Elementary School in Hartsville, South Carolina.

Last December, Chris saved a fellow student from serious injury. Because he was on

the alert, he noticed a girl's book bag and shirt caught in a car's rear tire, and saw that she was being pulled under the car before the driver knew what was happening. Chris jumped in front of the moving car and stopped it. His bravery saved the young girl from serious harm.

Students like Chris Haas report for duty on Safety Patrol every school day at North Hartsville Elementary School. Dressed in orange safety hats and belts and silver badges, they can be found helping students get safely across the street, and in and out of cars.

I want to salute Chris Haas for his courage and recognize all the other members of the Safety Patrol for helping make North Hartsville Elementary School a safe place to learn.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I represent the great City of Cleveland Ohio, which is home to the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame and also music legends such as the singing group the O'Jays.

The O'Jays had legendary hits in the 1970s like "Climbing the Stairway to Heaven," "Back Stabbers," and "For the Love of Money".

Just like in the 1970s when these songs of conscience were the rallying cry for so many around the country, they still have relevance today when you consider how we in Congress have yet to pass a true and comprehensive prescription drug benefit for our greatest treasure—Senior Citizens.

I hope people remember the titles of these songs when trying to figure out why we in Congress have yet to pass what we promised you sometime ago—Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage.

Yes, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have touted a new Medicare reform package that is suppose to address the ills of those Americans who are forced to decide between eating or taking their medicine—Senior Citizens.

I don't know a song title that would address this concern but I believe one of the three songs, I mentioned is appropriate and believe if you listen very closely to the tone my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are humming it just might be one of these songs—like "Back Stabbers" or "Climbing the Stairway to Heaven".

My personal favorite is "For the Love of Money" which was one of the O'Jays greatest hits. In one stanza in the song, the lead singer states, "For the love of money, a person would steal from his own mother."

This is what is happening in many cases because I know many of my colleagues are not listening to their conscience but rather House Leadership—Leadership which does not want to see a true comprehensive prescription drug benefit this Congress but would rather wait.

Waiting is an indication that many more people will continue to suffer because of inaction on our part.

I was raised to believe that a broken promise is equivalent to stealing.

But House leadership wants us to keep dancing. I pose the question to all—What are we dancing to?

It seems that my colleagues once again have dropped a quarter in their rhetorical jukebox that plays music that they want us to dance to.

But this time, I hope all of America listens closely to the beat and is not fooled by the words of the song or its rhetoric. Because if you listen closely you will hear:

LOWER THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS NOW

Translation. Take credit for minimal discounts that are already available.

GUARANTEE ALL SENIOR CITIZENS PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

Translation. Promise seniors an inadequate drug benefit offered by private insurance companies.

IMPROVE MEDICARE WITH MORE CHOICES AND MORE SAVINGS

Translation: Shift costs to seniors and limit choice of providers.

STRENGTHEN MEDICARE FOR THE FUTURE

Translation: Undermine Medicare by forcing seniors into private insurance and HMOs for drug coverage.

Stop the dancing! Stop the music!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rolcall No. 130, I was unavoidably detained with other matters. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

OUR SERVICEWOMEN FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM DESERVE FREEDOM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the House denied itself the opportunity to address a discriminatory practice affecting the women serving in our military. An amendment which would have required equal treatment of servicewomen overseas was prevented from coming to the floor. I consider this a great loss to all those who serve in our military and all Members of Congress who wished to express their conviction that our military can and must treat its members fairly.

The military currently requires or strongly encourages servicewomen to wear abayas and headscarves, complete coverings of their bodies, while off-base in Saudi Arabia. The military makes no such recommendations to servicemen to dramatically alter their appearance. The government of Saudi Arabia does not require non-Muslim women to wear abayas, and the U.S. State Department does not encourage its female embassy employees nor tourists to wear abayas.

I believe it is important to remember that the women who have served in our military have not always responded to a call. For many, they proudly volunteered long before a call was ever sounded.

During the American Revolution, wives followed their husbands into war, mothers followed their sons. They brought water and supplies, they tended the wounds of those who

were injured, and they took up the rifles of those who had fallen.

In World War I, women were, for the first time, allowed to enlist. More than 30,000 did so, a third of them served overseas. Since then, women of all generations have served in wars and conflicts far from their homes and families.

Discrimination in the military is an insult to the memory of those women who died in service to their country and a grave injury to those who currently serve. These women, who have helped foster freedom in nations on whose soil their blood has been shed, are owed the certainty that the military does not see them for their gender but rather for their courage and commitment to the ideals embraced by all of its military personnel.

During the Gulf War, helicopter pilot Major Marie Rossi, now buried in Section 8 of Arlington National Cemetery, offered her thoughts on the work of women in the military, "It's our jobs, you know. There was nothing peculiar about us being women. We're just the people called upon to do it."

The more than 300,000 women currently serving in our military would tell you the same. The House of Representatives should have seized the opportunity to tell our military women that we agree: their contributions and sacrifices are deeply appreciated by their nation. The military must not treat them as second-class citizens.

IN HONOR OF VIVIAN BECKER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Vivian Becker on the occasion of her retirement from the Pratt Area Community Council (PACC).

In 1989, Vivian Becker was appointed Executive Director of PACC—then a 25-year-old three-employee community organization dedicated to improving the community. Today, under Vivian's leadership PACC now stands out as a leading community-based organization with a revenue stream of \$3 million a year as well as a full-time staff of more than thirty people and a host of community volunteers and interns. PACC has not just grown; it has flourished through Vivian's hard work, dedication, and fine leadership.

Vivian saw the tremendous potential in PACC and in the community and has done an outstanding job in using both to their mutual advantage. Through tenant and community organizing, Vivian and PACC have helped residents in the traditionally low and moderate-income communities of Fort-Greene, Clinton Hill, and Bedford Stuyvesant to achieve self-sufficiency, develop a sense of community, and attain overall neighborhood revitalization. They have also overseen the development of more than 50 buildings, which created more than 500 units of affordable housing for families in need.

Moreover, under Vivian's leadership, PACC has addressed community issues by solving community problems. Vacant lots were turned into community gardens, blocks that were not organized, were organized and the problem of homelessness became a top priority. In addition,

PACC has offered tenant and homeowner services as well as community economic development assistance.

Mr. Speaker, Vivian Becker has spent the past thirteen years turning a small community organization into a powerful force that has improved the quality of life for everyone within their catchment area. She is a hard-working dedicated leader who has left an extraordinary legacy in Brooklyn. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly outstanding community builder.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS CHESTNUT,
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
ARIZONA BUSINESS PERSON
OF THE YEAR

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Thomas Chestnut, a resident of Tucson, Arizona. Recently, Tom was named Small Business Person of the Year for the State of Arizona by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Tom formed Chestnut Construction in 1990, starting with three employees. That year, the company had \$886,000 in revenue. Today, Chestnut Construction is one of the largest and most respected general commercial contracting firms in southern Arizona, with 44 employees and more than \$55 million in revenue.

Tom believes in commitment and loyalty to his staff, clients, subcontractors, and vendors. The majority of Tom's employees hired in the first few years of business are with the company today. His first contracted client is still one of Tom's most valuable customers.

As his company has profited, Tom has added more benefits for his employees. Today, Chestnut Construction provides its employees with healthcare, life and disability insurance, profit sharing, vacation, and bonuses that are uncommon in the construction industry or many other small businesses. Benefits even include the free use of a company-owned cabin.

Beyond treating its own employees very well, Chestnut Construction gets top marks for a hands-on approach in the performance of construction projects. Outsiders see that the company has a team attitude in their accomplishments.

Tom's philosophy is to work with the subcontractors and vendors, treat them well, pay them on time and build loyalty. It has resulted in a reputation of being fair and equitable in all aspects of his business. About 85 percent of Chestnut's work comes from repeat clients, and almost all advertising is word of mouth.

The concept of building a better community has double meaning for this construction company. Tom strongly urges employees to get involved in the community. Last year, donations to charitable organizations in cash, in-kind contributions and donated labor were above \$60,000.

Since 1996, Chestnut Construction has won 10 awards in southern Arizona, including such categories as general contractor of the year, community service, and best place to work. Tom's philosophy has resulted in his being

elected the founding chairman of the Arizona Builders' Alliance and the only general contractor ever honored with three Cornerstone Awards, which signify teamwork, quality of product, on-time delivery and dedication to the community.

I congratulate Thomas Chestnut on his Small Business Person of the Year award, and I applaud his hard work, his steadfast dedication to his profession and commitment to his community.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY
SITE APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, nuclear power has a role to play in our nation's energy policy. Our government must fulfill its obligation to store radioactive waste. The transportation and security concerns associated with Yucca Mountain can be overcome. However, by allowing this project to proceed, we do nothing to address the ongoing production of more nuclear waste.

I cannot support this resolution without a national policy to reduce additional nuclear waste. Forty years of nuclear power production in the United States has left a disturbing legacy—45,000 tons of radioactive waste stored in more than 70 communities. While this resolution recognizes the need for Yucca Mountain to store old waste, it does nothing to address the new waste currently being produced. With new waste being produced every day, Yucca Mountain will be full even before it opens. Today's debate should be about the future of nuclear energy and how we deal with its toxic debris.

Congress and the nuclear power industry must join together in an effort to reduce, recycle and minimize nuclear waste production. Unless our nation accepts the very real environmental and economic costs of nuclear energy, coal and oil, we will continue to perpetuate our addiction to unsustainable sources of energy. My constituents have expressed their frustration at our collective failure to take responsibility for our nation's nuclear energy policy. My vote is their voice on this issue. We must look comprehensively at our future energy policy and develop long-term, sustainable energy sources.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT
WORDEN

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, this weekend we are celebrating the Centennial of Fort Worden in Port Townsend, Washington, and I would like to take this opportunity to mark this occasion here in the House of Representatives. Fort Worden is a wonderful piece of our nation's history, first established on May 14, 1902 as part of a series of installations designed to provide protection along Puget

Sound waters for the important naval Shipyard in Bremerton. It was named for Admiral John L. Worden, who was the commander of the battleship *Monitor* in the famous Civil War battle with the Confederate ship *Merrimac*. The Fort was later designated as the headquarters for the harbor defenses for Puget Sound, and it was fortified with heavy gun batteries and defensive structures. During World War II, the Fort served as home to the Army's 14th Coast Artillery Regiment and the Washington National Guard's 248th Regiment.

Fort Worden's military role diminished in the 1940's, and it was decommissioned as an active military post in 1953, though various limited Navy and Army functions continued for some years after. It later served as home to a Treatment Center for juvenile delinquents, operated by the State of Washington, before it was finally acquired by the State and turned into a State Park in 1973. The old Fort buildings have been transformed into a Conference Center, and the site offers ample opportunity for recreation and camping. Having been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it now serves as one of the most picturesque and stately locations in the State of Washington. In fact, I am sure many of my colleagues can recall the views of the Fort's classic old white buildings in the feature movie "An Officer and a Gentleman," as Fort Worden served as the film's backdrop in 1981.

Today, Fort Worden remains a gathering place for people from across the Pacific Northwest to come for educational, cultural and arts programs, as well as recreational activities. It is a link to our past; a reminder of the state's very early role in the defense of our nation. I am proud that Fort Worden will be a partner with the Library of Congress on the Veterans History Project, honoring America's war veterans. And I am proud that so much of the military history of the Fort has been preserved, including the Commanding Officers Quarters Museum and the Pacific Coast Artillery Museum.

On the 100th Birthday of Fort Worden, I believe it is appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, to recognize the historical significance of this facility and its ongoing role in the Pacific Northwest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 131, I was unavoidably detained with other matters. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill Expressing the Sense of the Con-

gress regarding the International Criminal Court.

On Monday, May 6, President George W. Bush directed his representative to inform United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan that the United States "does not intend to become a party to the treaty [the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)]." President Bush is to be highly commended for renouncing the U.S. signature on the ICC treaty, a bold first step toward protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the possibility of unwarranted and politically-motivated persecutions.

By taking this action, President Bush has put the international community on notice that the United States will defend its sovereignty and citizens from this global court. The Bush Administration correctly pointed out that the ICC has unchecked power that contradicts our Constitution and its system of checks and balances; that the Court is "open for exploitation and politically-motivated prosecutions;" and that "the ICC asserts jurisdiction over citizens of states that have not ratified the treaty"—which seriously threatens American sovereignty.

I applaud President Bush in making it perfectly clear that the United States wants no part of the ICC. He faced enormous pressure from the international community to do otherwise, yet he did the right thing.

But this is only a first step. As Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stated this week, upon our renunciation of the ICC: "Unfortunately, the ICC will not respect the U.S. decision to stay out of the treaty. To the contrary, the ICC provisions claim the authority to detain and try American citizens—U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, as well as current and future officials—even though the United States has not given its consent to be bound by the treaty." Secretary Rumsfeld added, "When the ICC treaty enters into force this summer, U.S. citizens will be exposed to the risk of prosecution by a court that is unaccountable to the American people, and that has no obligation to respect the Constitutional rights of our citizens."

Undersecretary of State Marc Grossman, explaining the president's decision to withdraw from the ICC, made the following critical point: "Notwithstanding our disagreements with the Rome Treaty, the United States respects the decision of those nations who have chosen to join the ICC, but they in turn must respect our decision *not* to join the ICC or place our citizens under the jurisdiction of the court." There is no indication that Undersecretary Grossman's message has been received.

Therefore, this legislation makes it clear that Congress should take all steps necessary to grant appropriate authority to the president to defend the American people—servicemember and citizen alike—from the threat of arrest, prosecution and conviction by the International Criminal Court.

I am introducing this legislation to also to commend President Bush for his courageous move, to assure the president that this body supports his action to protect the Constitution and American sovereignty. We have all taken an oath to protect and defend the Constitution, and we should stand with the president.

I rise, finally, to encourage the president to remain steadfast in his intention of protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the unchecked power of the International

Criminal Court. This is only the beginning, however, there is much more to be done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 127, H.R. 2911, Designating the Federal Building located at 5100 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, Maryland, as the Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 404. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 128, H. Con. Res. 271, Expressing the Sense of Congress Supporting the National Importance of Health Care Coverage Month. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 129, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 130, on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 131, on Agreeing to the Senate Amendments on H.R. 3525, the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 132, H.J. Res. 87, On Consideration of the Resolution, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 133, H.J. Res. 87, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF VALLEY BRONZE AND STEWART SPRINGS, LTD.

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the men and women of Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their success in receiving the contract to adorn the World War II monument on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Valley Bronze is a foundry located in Joseph, Oregon in Wallowa County in my congressional district, a pristine sliver of the United States whose citizens live and breathe the heritage of the American West.

The successful bid award to participate in the construction of the World War II memorial

was the product of a creative collaboration between David and Christine Jackman, the owners of Valley Bronze, and Janelle Stewart, the owner of Stewart Springs, Ltd., a drafting company also located in Joseph.

When it is complete, the "Freedom Wall" of the World War II memorial will feature 4,123 gold-plated stars cast by Valley Bronze, each of which will represent 100 American lives lost in the service of our nation during that terrible conflict. Fifty-six pillars will surround the memorial to represent every American state and territory, each of which will be decorated with bronze wreaths made in Joseph. Anchoring the flagpoles at the ceremonial entrance to the monument will be pedestals made by Valley Bronze, and monumental bas relief medallions representing the "victory medallions" given to World War II veterans will be embedded in the floor of the archways at each end of the memorial. Finally, four water fountains and 900 feet of decorative drainage grate will encircle the monument. I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that each of the decorations that will adorn the memorial will be cast with the care and precision to befit a monument in honor of America's patriot dead.

Mr. Speaker, awarding this bid to Valley Bronze is a reflection of the beauty of their work and the quality of their craftsmanship. It is fitting that the materials to build this monument to our nation's heroes will be brought together from across the American continent, just as America's sons and daughters came from cities and towns across this great land to answer their nation's call.

The national monument to the veterans of World War II will stand for generations as an enduring testament to the heroism and sacrifice of the men and women who have rightly been called the Greatest Generation. Visitors from across the United States and indeed the rest of the world will journey to our nation's capital to see this monument and pay their own private tribute to the legions of American soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who fought and died to prevent the spread of tyranny. They will do so enjoying the freedom won in part by the exertions of Oregonians, just as the beauty they admire was crafted by Oregonians' hands.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their outstanding success. The first-rate quality of their work was chosen as the finest in the land, and I am proud to represent them and their patriotic community in the House of Representatives.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DANIEL KEITH ROBINSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Daniel Robinson has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award; and

Therefore, I join with Troop 510, the residents of Muskingum County, and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Daniel Robinson as he received the Eagle Scout Award.

RECOGNIZING DR. GEORGE KIDD, JR. FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO TIFFIN UNIVERSITY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. George Kidd, Jr., upon his retirement as President of Tiffin University. Dr. Kidd has distinguished himself as one of the nation's outstanding educators, university administrators, and visionaries of higher education.

When Dr. Kidd became Tiffin University's President in April, 1981, the college's enrollment of 375 students occupied three academic buildings. The academic focus was its two-year associate degree program. The school's operating budget had produced seven consecutive annual deficits.

Dr. Kidd's legacy at Tiffin University is a transformed institution of higher knowledge, an innovative curriculum, a distinguished faculty, vibrant campus and a balanced operating budget.

Student enrollment now exceeds 1,600 with a primary focus shifted to the four-year bachelors degree programs. The university facilities now include eleven buildings, including three dormitories, a dining commons, a student center, gymnasium and 38 acres of athletic playing fields.

Dr. Kidd's tireless efforts on behalf of Tiffin University are matched only by his many selfless contributions to the Tiffin community. He has generously given of his time to local community service organizations, including Seneca County United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Hospital, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. George Kidd's contributions to our country are as numerous as the many bright futures he has touched as an educator and a mentor. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him and his loving and equally talented wife, Dianne, good health and our very best wishes.

HORMONE DISRUPTION RESEARCH ACT OF 2002

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002.

Arctic polar bears show high concentrations of certain synthetic compounds in their tissues. Whales in the world's oceans carry PCBs and other contaminants at concentrations which cause developmental defects in humans.

U.S. streams and groundwater show widespread contamination with chemicals, dioxins, and antibiotics. Alligators in Florida's lakes suffer from reproductive problems that appear to be associated with chronic chemical contamination. New studies have made a persuasive case that contaminants were in part or wholly responsible for the loss of the lake trout and herring in the Great Lakes many decades ago.

Rates of infertility, the incidence of testicular cancer in young men, Parkinson's disease, endometriosis, childhood diabetes, and asthma have risen dramatically since 1970.

What does this all mean? Are there connections between rising levels of chemicals in the environment and increasing rates of certain disorders in humans?

In many cases, we simply don't know. We do not have the scientific information that would allow us to draw solid conclusions. But a growing body of research suggests that there is indeed a connection between certain chemicals and human health.

In recent decades, scientists have begun to recognize and define the hazard posed by some chemicals to the human hormone (or endocrine) system. By definition, hormone disrupting chemicals interfere with the normal activity of hormones within the body. Some chemicals mimic natural hormones and send false messages. Other synthetic compounds block hormonal signals and prevent the proper action from taking place. Still others cause disruption by preventing the synthesis of the body's own hormones, or by accelerating their breakdown and excretion. Whatever the mechanism, the bottom line is the same: Any chemical that interferes directly or indirectly with hormones can scramble vital messages, derail development, and undermine health.

We are only now learning that the effects of hormone disruptors may affect more than one generation. Though adults may not show symptoms of exposure themselves, they may pass the "Imprint," or hormonal effects of exposure, on to their children. In those cases, it is the children whose development suffers. Since 1970, childhood cancers, learning disabilities, hyperactivity, autism, juvenile diabetes, early puberty, early testicular cancer, and infertility have increased significantly both in the United States and around the world. There is growing evidence to suggest that hormone disruptors play an important role in all of these disorders.

Today I am proud to introduce the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002. This legislation directs the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to conduct a major research program on hormone disruption. In addition, it requires NIEHS to report to the public every two years on the extent to which hormone disruption by chemicals poses a threat to human health and the environment. The bill authorizes \$100 million per year for five years for this critically important program.

To date, federal research on hormone disruption has been scattershot and underfunded, even as evidence about hormone disruption has grown. The research program authorized through the legislation will enable NIEHS to gather solid data about the dangers posed by some chemicals and the mechanisms through which they act. With this information in hand, we can make sensible, informed decisions and policies about our own and our children's health and well-being.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Hormone Disruption Research Act. We owe it to future generations to pursue this scientific research, which has implications for every one of us.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, as part of National Small Business week, I rise today to recognize all the men and women who work in or for a small business in America. Small business is the heart of our economy and culture. It is where the American Dream time and time again is realized.

Prior to my election I was a small business owner. I started like millions of entrepreneurs with a vision and lifefavings. My wife Cathy and I started with \$7,000 and founded Directed Electronics and within 10 years built a company that is an industry leader in automobile security products. I understand the workings of small business and want to take this time not only to commemorate, but to remind everyone the important role that small business plays in our economy.

Small Business is not only the backbone of our economy, but has also changed our culture. More small businesses are owned by women and minorities. There are now 9.1 million firms owned by women: these firms employ 27.5 million Americans. Minority-owned firms are the fastest growing segment from less than 7 percent of all U.S. firms in 1982 to 15.1 percent in 1997. Women and minorities are changing the face of business by helping break old sentiments of prejudices.

I appeal to my fellow colleagues to work to help small business to continue to flourish so that all Americans are able to realize their dream. Right now, small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employers and employ 52 percent of the private workforce. This is a large block of the American people.

The President, in March, announced his small business agenda which included tax incentives for small businesses, making affordable health care available to more employees, and making the federal contract process more accessible to small businesses.

Small business is America. It is the future of our economy and culture. Let's not strangle it with regulation, but continue to help hard-working American workers and entrepreneurs by supporting the President's plan to help small businesses.

IN HONOR OF MAX RODRIGUEZ

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Max Rodriguez, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) "2002 Community Service Awardee of the Year". He was honored by the NAACP, Hempstead Branch & Youth Council at their

22nd Annual Freedom Fund Luncheon on May 4, 2002, at the Nassau County Bar Association.

Mr. Rodriguez was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Hempstead Village in 1994, and elected to the Board in 1995, making history as the first Hispanic Trustee to serve, not only in Hempstead Village, but also in Nassau County. In 1997, he was appointed Assistant Director for the Office of Minority Affairs. Currently, Mr. Rodriguez is a Project Manager for One Source, and a Representative for Best Business Corp. Realty.

A leader in the Hispanic Community, Mr. Rodriguez contributes to many organizations, including: the NAACP; Silver Life; the Cuban American National Foundation; the Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; La Hermandad del Senor de los Milagros; Hempstead for Hofstra Scholarship Board; the Interfaith Nutrition Network; and the East Meadow Kewanis Club. He is the Northeast Regional Representative of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly; serves on the President's Advisory Board on Multicultural Concerns at Molloy College; and is Commissioner of Recreation and Parks in Hempstead Village.

For his initiative and outstanding service, he has received numerous awards, including: the American Red Cross Peter Bon Berg Humanitarian of the Year Award; Hofstra for Hempstead Unispan Award; United States Postal Service Award; Hempstead Chamber of Commerce Public Servant of the Year; West Indian-American Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award of the Year; and countless others.

Mr. Rodriguez holds a Bachelor's Degree from Adelphi University, and a B.A. in Business Management/Communication.

Mr. Rodriguez is married to Gladys, father of three daughters, Vicky, Jennifer, and Monica, and proud grandfather of Nicholas.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Max Rodriguez for his selfless dedication and positive contributions to our community.

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL FRANCIS
S. GABRESKI, WORLD WAR II ACE

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to remember to my Colleagues and to this great Country a most extraordinary Veteran who passed away this year.

Col Francis S. Gabreski, 83, America's air ace in Europe in WWII and an ace in the Korean War died January 31, 2002 of a heart attack.

One of five children, Gabreski was born in Oil City PA on January 28 1919. His parents were Polish immigrants. He would fly 266 combat missions in two wars destroying 37.5 enemy aircraft in World War II and 6.5 in Korea.

Flying single engine P-47 Thunderbolt fighters, Mr. Gabreski downed 28 Messerschmitts and FockeWulfs over France and Germany between August 24, 1943 and July 5, 1944, and destroyed three more German aircraft on the ground. He was captured in late July 1944 after crash-landing near Koblenz, Germany on

what was to have been his last mission, and spent ten months as a prisoner of war. He became an ace (a pilot shooting down at least five enemy planes) in the Korean War as well, flying an F-86 Sabre jet. He shot down six Soviet-built MIG-15 fighters and shared credit for the downing of another.

His flying days began after he graduated from basic training in March, 1941 as a second lieutenant, and joined a fighter unit at Wheeler Field in Hawaii. On the morning of December 7, 1941, he was shaving when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. He scrambled to a P-36 fighter but by then the Japanese aircraft were nowhere in sight.

Because he spoke Polish and "I felt strongly about what the Nazis had done to Poland," he asked to be assigned to a Polish fighter unit attached to the Royal Air Force. He flew some two dozen missions over Europe with Polish pilots early in 1943 before joining the United States 56th Fighter Group in Britain.

After the war and a hero's welcome home, Gabreski worked for Grumman Aerospace and was head of the Long Island Rail Road, the nation's busiest commuter line.

Gabreski once said, "A pilot can contribute physical acumen, good eyesight and alertness. You have to be calm, cool and collected. Freeze, and you frighten yourself. But beyond that you need some luck to survive."

Gabreski lived in Dix Hills, NY. He is survived by three sons, six daughters, two sisters, eighteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Among Gabreski's decorations were: The Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with nine Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with four Clusters, the Bronze Star, The French Legion D'Honneur and Croix de Guerre with Palm, Polish Cross of Valor, the British Distinguished Flying Cross and the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

IMPROVE CHILD SURVIVAL AND
MATERNAL HEALTH

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution along with my colleague, Representative CONNIE MORELLA, voicing this body's commitment to improving the health of mothers and children around the world. This resolution illustrates that an increased commitment to improving the health of the world's mothers and children will have a long-term impact on the political, economic, and social progress of developing countries. The stability of our own nation depends significantly on the economic and political situation of developing nations. Their economic and political progression cannot be realized unless the health of their people is improved. The global community acknowledges this need.

On May 8-10, representatives from over 179 countries met at the United Nations Special Session on Children. During this meeting, they reviewed the progress made since the 1990 World Summit for Children and renewed their pledge to improve the lives of the world's children over the next decade.

Our Administration also acknowledges that investing in better health increases a country's

ability to prosper. President Bush made a wise decision when he proposed increased funding for global HIV/AIDS programs at USAID. But it is disconcerting that his budget also recommends a \$25 million decrease in support for maternal and child health programs. Difficult choices must be made, understandably, but funds should not be shifted from one essential health program to another.

At this precarious time in our world, we cannot lose sight of the health of women, the primary caregivers who instill values and provide hope for their children, the future of every society. Every year, over 500,000 women die during pregnancy and childbirth. The vast majority of these lives could be saved by low-tech, low-cost interventions. The health of a child and her mother are closely intertwined, and good maternal health is essential for the survival of both mother and child. In developing countries, a mother's death in childbirth due to malnutrition, or inadequate prenatal and delivery care, means almost certain death for her newborn child.

We must also invest substantially more in programs that improve the health of young children. Every year, nearly 11 million die needlessly before their fifth birthday—almost all from diseases easily prevented or readily treated. For example, pennies worth of antibiotics could save three million children who will die this year of pneumonia.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution calls for increased funding for basic child survival and maternal health programs of at least \$500 million dollars. This figure is just a small investment when the dividends would be political stability, international security, and a renewed hope for the future of mothers and children around the world. Representative MORELLA and I urge our colleagues to join us in supporting this important resolution.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF
RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the work of Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, one of America's great citizens, who is retiring from his position as senior rabbi at Temple Israel in Great Neck, New York. On Sunday, May 19, Temple Israel will hold a dinner to celebrate and honor Rabbi Waxman for his 55 years of devoted service not just to the Jewish community on Long Island, but to the Jewish community throughout America and around the world.

Well-known throughout New York, Rabbi Waxman will be remembered in human history as one of the key figures in the effort to heal the painful breach between the Jewish people and the Roman Catholic Church. Working with two Popes, Rabbi Waxman played a key role in the Second Vatican Council's publication of the *Nostra Aetate* document, which transformed modern relations between Jews and Catholics.

Rabbi Waxman has not only been a leader between religions, but also a key figure in the U.S. Jewish community over several decades. Beginning with his ordination at the Jewish

Theological Seminary in 1941, Rabbi Waxman has continuously sought opportunities for leadership, first, as the founding rabbi at Congregation Shaare Tikva in Chicago, Illinois and then, only a year later, serving as a U.S. Army chaplain from 1943 to 1946.

Following his service to our nation, Rabbi Waxman went on to lead Temple Israel, along the way becoming editor of the *Journal of Conservative Judaism*, the president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the president of the World Council of Synagogues, the chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultation, the chairman of the National Council of Synagogues and even the first rabbi to become a Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great due to his vital role in Jewish-Catholic rapprochement.

Mr. Speaker, America is not a great nation because a small corps of heroes do great deeds. America is a great nation because our charter of freedom has enabled thousands of ordinary men and women to do extraordinary things.

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman is just such an ordinary doer of extraordinary things. As a citizen, as a U.S. Army chaplain, as a leader of the Jewish community in America and internationally, and as a husband to the late Dr. Ruth Waxman, the father of Hillel, Jonathan and David Waxman, and the grandfather of five wonderful grandchildren, Ariya, Amir-Kia, Lailee, Jessye and Avir, Rabbi Waxman has represented what we all know is best about our nation and our society.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the whole House to rise and join me in thanking Rabbi Mordecai Waxman for his contributions to our country and its citizens, and in wishing him a retirement of peace, contentment and good health.

ON PASSAGE OF THE CONFERENCE
REPORT TO H.R. 2646, THE FARM
SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, On May 2, 2002, the House approved the conference report to H.R. 2646, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, also known as the farm bill. I could not support this measure, for it represents a complete reversal of the 1996 Freedom to Farm Act, legislation that I have long supported.

The 1996 Freedom to Farm Act was a six-year attempt to wean farmers off government support, taking agriculture out of the hands of government control by eliminating subsidies and letting the market dictate prices and production levels. I acknowledge that the Freedom to Farm Act was not perfect, but instead of improving upon this approach and building on its early success, the conference report completely abandons the free market principles of Freedom to Farm and returns to government subsidies and hands-on government management of agriculture.

The Chicago Tribune ran an editorial on May 6, 2002, entitled "Congress at the trough," which reflects the sentiments many of us share with respect to the conference report

to H.R. 2646. I bring the editorial to my colleagues' attention and ask that it be included in the record of debate on the conference report.

CONGRATULATING SBC

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that these are challenging times for our nation's economy. All of us are looking for solutions. And many of those solutions will come from America's small businesses, whose ability to grow and prosper is crucial for today's commerce.

Today, I would like to recognize a company, which does business in my district and many other congressional districts, for its role in helping small businesses—and, in particular, diverse businesses.

That company is SBC Communications, which earlier this month [May 7] received a Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership. This presidential award, named for the late Commerce Secretary, is presented to companies that have demonstrated a deep commitment to initiatives that empower employees and communities.

SBC was honored specifically for its excellence in promoting economic development through supplier diversity. Last year, the company spent 23.5 percent of its \$12 billion procurement budget with businesses owned by women, minorities or disabled veterans. At the award ceremony, Commerce Secretary Don Evans praised SBC for its program and noted, correctly I think, that SBC "has set the standard for supplier diversity."

Beyond the immediate economic benefit for small and diverse companies, SBC's diversity program also ensures that these firms learn how to compete in a high-tech world. SBC doesn't just place orders with diverse companies—it actually recruits and trains them, offers special loan programs and makes available educational opportunities.

SBC wins from this commitment by broadening its supplier base and making sure that it is reaching out to all segments of society. Smaller, independent companies, especially those firms owned by women and minorities, win by gaining improved access to the world of big business. This is good for SBC, good for economic vitality and diversity, and good for America.

I congratulate SBC on this much-deserved award.

THE STOLEN ASSET RECOVERY
ACT OF 2002

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002. This bill would facilitate the identification of assets that have been stolen by dictators and other corrupt officials in developing countries and laundered in American financial institutions.

Many developing countries have been ruled by dictators and corrupt officials who have stolen millions of dollars from their people, laundering these stolen assets in banks and financial institutions in the developed world. Numerous dictators, such as Sani Abacha of Nigeria, Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier of Haiti, Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, Suharto of Indonesia and the Taliban of Afghanistan, have plundered their countries' resources and left their people deeply impoverished and oppressed. When these corrupt officials leave their countries, the new governments typically lack the resources to thoroughly investigate the theft and identify the laundered assets.

The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002 would require the Secretary of the Treasury to submit annual reports to the Congress on the laundering of stolen assets in American financial institutions. The reports would include an explanation of U.S. Government efforts to identify stolen assets, mechanisms available to the U.S. Government to identify stolen assets and legislation that could be enacted to facilitate the return of stolen assets to the people of the countries from which the assets were stolen. The legislation would also require the Secretary of the Treasury to urge international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to provide to the United States copies of all audits regarding the use of funds loaned to governments where corruption has been a serious problem.

The United States should support efforts to identify assets stolen by corrupt foreign officials and facilitate their return to the people who rightfully own them. I urge my colleagues to support The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the State of Israel. I am wholly committed to the security and safety of Israel, a key strategic friend and ally. Last week I voted present on H. Res. 392, the DeLay Resolution entitled "Expressing Solidarity With Israel In Its Fight Against Terrorism." In December 2001, I voted for a similar resolution, H. Con. Res. 280, also entitled "Expressing Solidarity With Israel In Its Fight Against Terrorism."

I voted "present" last week because I believed that this resolution did not promote the safety or security of Israel. I hope to see Israel and Palestine coexist as democratic states, each within secure and internationally recognized boundaries. I believe that the United States has an important role to play in promoting peace in the region. The language of this resolution was highly inflammatory, and I could not in conscience support a measure that might compromise our ability to seek peace.

Terrible carnage has claimed too many innocent lives, both Israeli and Palestinian. I voted as I did because I believe the United States can help end that carnage.

RECOGNIZING MAY 10TH ANNUAL PEACE OFFICER DAY IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind my colleagues of the countless sacrifices made by many police officers who serve us every day. In particular, we owe a special debt of gratitude to the many courageous men and women who have given their lives while protecting and defending others. In Congress, we enjoy the protection provided by members of the Capitol Police force, just as in our states, cities and localities we are privileged to be protected by some of the finest and bravest men and women. Unfortunately, far too many of their colleagues have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In the city of Chicago, these brave men and women will be remembered tomorrow, May 10, 2002 as part of the Cook County Peace Officer Day of Remembrance and Recognition. Last year, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution establishing May 10th of every year, beginning this year, as this special day of remembrance. Tomorrow, the Cook County Peace Office Memorial Foundation will hold a special public ceremony to honor all current police officers for the difficult work that they do every day.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Cook County Peace Officer Memorial Foundation and their Co-Chairmen Jason H. Watson, Edward Sajdak, Nathan Camer, Daryl Bernard for organizing this special event. I also join them in saluting the officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice while making America's communities safe and secure for all of us.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all correctional officers and to honor the Week of May 5th as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. Correctional officers play an imperative role in my Congressional District and throughout the country.

FBI Schuylkill, SCI Frackville, and SCI Mahanoy, as well as three county prisons, are six of the most critical employers in my district. The men and women who work at these facilities have the awesome responsibility of protecting my constituents and the public from inmates.

Correctional employees also have the important job of overseeing the rehabilitation of prisoners. They lead prisoners back into the community, supervising the construction of such things like recreation areas and baseball fields for children.

As the former sheriff of Schuylkill County, I worked hand-in-hand with the men and women who worked at the correctional facilities. No group of people understands the rigors and challenges of law enforcement greater than those who work in correctional facilities.

I would also like to pay tribute to the New York Corrections Department. On September 11, these men and women rushed to the scene of the World Trade Center tragedy to help evacuate the victims, once again proving the vital role correctional officers play in their communities.

Every day correctional officers go to work they face more danger than some of us face in our whole lives. It is a great honor to recognize these men and women and to recognize the Week of May 5th as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week.

HONORING THE 150TH CELEBRATION OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY IN CONNECTICUT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th Celebration of the Sisters of Mercy mission in the state of Connecticut. Since their founding in Hartford in 1852, the Sisters have established many important organizations, including St. Mary Home for the Aged, 1880; the Ministry for the Deaf-American School for the Deaf, 1896; Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, 1905; Saint Joseph College, 1932; Mercy High School, 1963; Our Lady of Mercy School, 1964; Foreign Mission in Guatemala, 1981; Mercy Center at Madison, 1973; Mercy Housing & Shelter, 1983; Trust House Collaborative Learning Center, 1996; and the Collaborative Center for Justice, 1999.

The Sisters have turned their original stated purpose of the care of orphans and other works of Mercy into selfless acts that have improved the lives of millions of individuals.

Their work in education alone has influenced countless numbers of students who have in turn contributed to the development of both the Church community and the Connecticut community as a whole. The Sisters of Mercy have consciously identified the most pressing needs of the community and effectively used their resources to address those needs. Whether it be helping the economically poor, sick, elderly, imprisoned or ignorant, showing a special concern for women and children, or carrying out foreign missionary work, the actions of the Sisters can be described as nothing less than altruistic. They have supplemented time-honored strategies with conventional methods to address human needs in health care and pastoral and social services. The Sisters have generously provided for the spiritual welfare of thousands.

In July 1991, 7,000 Sisters of Mercy united as the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas to become an international community. The Institute includes 25 regional communities with 5,500 members who serve in North, South and Central America, the Caribbean, Guam and the Philippines. The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas sponsor or cosponsor seven major national healthcare systems, 20 colleges and universities, 20 elementary and preschools, 39 secondary schools, and hundreds of affordable housing developments. They also serve in programs ranging from hospices for persons with HIV/AIDS, to adult literacy centers and resettlement programs for refugees.

It is the hope, on this Sesquicentennial Celebration, that their continued energy will allow them to focus on the state's residents and those beyond its borders who are in need for many years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Sisters of Mercy for 150 years of service and commitment in the state of Connecticut. Personally, I would also like to thank Sister Patricia Rooney, RSM for her tireless work and effort, as well as my dear friend and former boss, Sister Marita Charles, RSM, who was principal of St. Mary's School in East Hartford, CT.

HONORING PENSACOLA JUNIOR
COLLEGE AND THE SWITZER
ARTS CENTER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in 1947, Pensacola Junior College became the first public junior college to be established under Florida law. Subsequently, as the college grew, so did the recognition and support from the community. In 1965, the Pensacola Junior College (PJC) Foundation was incorporated as a non-profit corporation that could accept tax-deductible contributions from community supporters.

During the next three decades, the PJC Foundation helped the college expand its campus, through the addition of many new buildings, as well as additional campus locations. In December 1998, the PJC Foundation launched its first comprehensive fund drive. The goal was to raise \$4.5 million. A lead gift of \$1 million from the Switzer and Reilly families established the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts and got the campaign off to a successful start.

Born September 11, 1990, Anna Lamar Switzer, the namesake of the Switzer Center for Visual Arts, was an artist and published author who believed Pensacola should offer quality educational programs for those living in Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Congress congratulates Pensacola Junior College and recognizes the generous contribution of the Switzer family. The arts center is a fitting memorial to Mrs. Switzer and an enduring opportunity for faculty, students, and the public to enjoy and learn from the visual arts as Mrs. Switzer did. The Switzer endowment has allowed PJC not only a renovated arts center, but a three-year faculty chair award, two-year student scholarship award, and the creation of the Distinguished Artist Lecture Series.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the life of Anna Lamar Switzer, her love for education and her affection for her community of Pensacola.

STAND WITH ISRAEL

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, when I first visited Israel in 1998, I was introduced to the com-

plexity and also the special beauty and historical importance that Israel represents. During my visit I met with various representatives of both the Israeli government and the Palestinian community. I remember that there existed at that time a cautious optimism and a hope that perhaps after generations of pain and suffering these groups were on the brink of peace. It is therefore with particular sadness that I have watched this holy land descend into the most extreme violence and bloodshed over the past 18 months. The traffic and horrifying carnage caused by suicide bombers, who are being used as a tool of terror against innocent children, is simply barbaric and upsets me greatly.

However, Mr. Speaker, we must not be moved to give in to these terrorists. I stand here today with many in this chamber to condemn these atrocities and express our support for the Israeli people.

On September 11th we learned how small the world has become. We can no longer ignore conflicts halfway around the world and pretend that they do not affect our own security.

Mr. Speaker, there is no future in a partnership with people encourage their own sons and daughters to die in acts of infamy and the random murder of innocent people. To compromise with a terrorist is to sponsor terrorism. We must stand with Israel.

INTRODUCING THE ARSENIC
TREATED LUMBER PROHIBITION
AND DISPOSAL ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Arsenic Treated Lumber Prohibition and Disposal Act to protect children and families by phasing out the use of arsenic in pressure treated lumber and ensure that arsenic treated lumber is disposed of safely.

Most of the lumber sold for outdoor use in the U.S.—for school playgrounds and decks of private homes—is pressure-treated and injected with toxins to preserve the wood and prevent insect infestation. The most common wood preservative and pesticide used is chromated copper arsenate (CCA), which is 22 percent pure arsenic. A 12-foot section of pressure-treated lumber contains about an ounce of arsenic, enough to kill 250 people. An Environmental Working Group and Healthy Building Network study found that an area of arsenic-treated wood the size of a four-year-old's hand contains an average of 120 times the amount of arsenic allowed by the EPA in a 6-ounce glass of water. According to the report an estimated one out of every 500 children, who regularly play on playground equipment or decks made from pressure-treated wood can be expected to develop cancer later in life as a result of the exposure.

The Arsenic Treated Lumber Prohibition and Disposal Act will prohibit the use of CCA treated lumber once and for all. The Arsenic Treated Lumber Prohibition and Disposal Act, parallel legislation to Senator Bill Nelson's (S. 1963) bill, will phase-out the use of arsenic-treated lumber in residential settings: decks,

playgrounds, walkways and fences within a year of enactment. It also requires the disposal of arsenic-treated lumber in lined landfills to prevent contamination of groundwater and requires the EPA to finish its risk assessment regarding arsenic-treated lumber. Finally, it provides monetary assistance to schools and local communities to remove arsenic-treated lumber from their playgrounds.

Arsenic can kill, and it causes cancer and other life threatening diseases. We can no longer ignore the dangers posed by exposing our children to this poison. The Arsenic Treated Lumber Prohibition and Disposal Act will protect the environment and health of American Families. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in this effort to keep families safe.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
WILLIAM D. RISEN

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions made by Lieutenant William D. Risen to the Monterey Park Police Department. After 30 years of dedicated service, Lieutenant Risen will retire on May 10, 2002.

A native of Monterey Park, Lieutenant Risen's commitment to his community characterizes his career. After receiving his Associate degree from East Los Angeles College, Lieutenant Risen served in the United States Army from 1970 to 1972. While in the Army, he earned several medals including the distinguished National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. After being honorably discharged, he returned to Monterey Park and joined the Monterey Park Police Department.

While at the police department, he was one of the police department's first K-9 officers. Lieutenant Risen and his trusted K-9 partner, Xello, worked side by side to arrest numerous felony suspects. Lieutenant Risen was part of the Investigations Bureau where his excellent investigator skills and strong work ethic earned him his appointment as Investigations Bureau Commander. As a Commander, he trained and mentored many of the police department's investigators.

Lieutenant Risen also supervised the Asian Gangs and Narcotics Task Force. It was in this capacity that his investigations and role during a narcotic shoot out, earned him the Distinguished Service Medal in 1998.

During the course of his career, he received numerous letters of appreciation and commendations for his work. Several of those letters recognized his compassion and aid to victims of violent crimes. Fellow law enforcement officers, friends and neighbors can all testify to his strength of character.

I commend Lieutenant Risen's commitment to public service. He will be missed by many, but we all wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for his many years of service.

HONORING GEORGE HERRING,
ED.D., RETIRING AFTER 32
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. George Herring for his outstanding educational leadership and his many contributions to the Peralta Community College District.

Dr. Herring received his Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi and his Masters in Public Administration from University of California at Berkeley.

Dr. Herring came to the Peralta Community College District in 1970 as Director of the Ford Project, a program to assist under-represented students seeking to transfer to four year colleges, at Oakland's Merritt College. He went on to serve as Assistant Dean of Student Services at Merritt and was quickly promoted to Dean of Administration and Development.

While serving as Dean of Administration and Student Services at Merritt College, Dr. Herring concurrently acted as Dean of Student Services at Laney College, also located in Oakland, California and later went on to become the President of the College of Alameda in 1995, serving that institution for more than five years before accepting his position as Peralta's Senior Vice Chancellor.

While always busy with district and college affairs, Dr. Herring found the time to be active on numerous boards and commissions. He was President of the Northern California Research Group for three years, served three terms as the President of the Board of the YMCA of the East Bay, and is past President of the Western Regional Council on Black American Affairs.

Not only is Dr. Herring an active member of the community of higher education, he is also a current member of the California Community Colleges Commission on Athletics. Dr. Herring has won several National American Tennis Association championships and spends a great deal of his spare time teaching youth tennis and coaching little league baseball.

Mr. Speaker, as Dr. Herring leaves behind a long and rich history at the Peralta Community College District, I ask that Congress join me in expressing thanks to him for thirty-two years of exemplary service. I extend my best wishes to him as he begins his well-earned retirement and opens a new chapter of his life.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

HON. RICHARD K. ARMEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the House has completed its legislative business for the week.

The House will next meet for legislative business on Tuesday, May 14 at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 o'clock p.m. for legislative business. On Tuesday, I will schedule a number of measures under suspension of the

rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices tomorrow. Recorded votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday and the balance of the week, I have scheduled the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act and H.R. 3994, the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act of 2002.

A WONDERFUL MAN

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon we honored a Celebration of the Life of Dr. James D. Ford, the Chaplain Emeritus of the House of Representatives.

When we traveled to meeting with the delegations of the European Parliament, we found that Jim was a very fine companion. Jim Ford was a great teacher. When we met diplomats and officers, Jim was able to lighten up some of us who were stressed from negotiations and differences among various factions.

Jim was a fine scholar of the Bible. When we were in Israel, Jim was well versed in three of the great religions which are in Jerusalem. Before Chaplain Ford came to the House, he had been for 18 years as the Chaplain of the United States Military Academy at West Point. As a result of his experiences at West Point, he knew about youth and how they grow to be leaders for our country. When a delegation of the House met with General Wesley Clark, the Supreme Commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO]. When the General met the Chaplain there was a warm hug. We saw a four star General, but, Dr. Ford remembered him as the very bright senior who was President of the Bible Society during Clark's senior year at West Point.

Dr. Ford was an effective counselor of members that work hard and often needed to be working with people under stress.

One of Jim's great adventures was when he and three volunteer cadets from West Point navigated a boat with sails, guided by the stars. The waves tossed the small boat in the North Atlantic Ocean. It was a great experience.

Jim was a people-person. When colleagues had medical operations at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Jim would come out to see us. He brought us cheer. His humor was delightful.

He will not be forgotten. Our condolences to Marcie, his wife, and Peter his eldest son, and the Ford family.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MORRISON
AND DEREK MARTIN

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, May 3, 2002 was a sad day for the City of St. Louis and for our entire community. On that day, St. Louis Firefighters Robert Morrison and Derek Martin were killed, fighting a fire in the performance of their duty.

Although neither thought of himself as a hero, Firefighters Morrison and Martin, both 38 years old, were heroes in the truest sense of the word. They risked their lives every day to protect the citizens of St. Louis, and considered that they were just doing their jobs. They didn't become firefighters for the money or to become famous. They joined the Fire Department out of a sense of duty to their community and a desire to help others. Their belief in duty and honor and self-sacrifice formed their lives, and was reflected in the way they conducted themselves on and off the job.

Mr. Speaker, the loss of these fine young men is a great tragedy. Their wives have lost their loving companionship; their children have lost the love, guidance and example of very special men. The entire St. Louis Community grieves with these families. Firefighters Robert Morrison and Derek Martin have left a legacy of decency and bravery that won't be soon forgotten, and we are grateful to have had them among us.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
JONATHAN R. BAUGHMAN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Jonathan R. Baughman has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 28; and

Whereas, Jonathan R. Baughman has shared his time and talent with the community; and

Whereas, Jonathan R. Baughman has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jonathan R. Baughman must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Jonathan R. Baughman for his Eagle Scout Award.

A TRIBUTE TO SMALL BUSINESS
WEEK 2002

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the small business owners in my district and to celebrate Small Business Week 2002. Every morning, 25 million small businesses across the United States opened their stores and that number continues to grow. Small businesses account for 99.7 percent of all employers and it is time that we recognize them as the backbone of our economy.

In my home state of California, women and minorities make up the fastest growing group of new small business owners. Overall in the United States, the number of woman-owned businesses has almost doubled and minority-owned businesses have nearly quadrupled in the past decade. In order to ensure that this

positive growth continues, we must work along side the Small Business Association and with the Small Business Development Centers and Women's Business Centers around the nation to increase accessibility to business counseling, startup packages, and loans.

Now more than ever, it is vital that we in Congress support the small business community so that in the wake of September 11th these businesses can continue to flourish. As Small Business Week 2002 comes to a close, let's remember to take time to acknowledge these Main Street businesses in our own towns and the important roles they play in maintaining a sound economy.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE RUPP

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the distinguished service of one of the nation's foremost leaders in higher education, Dr. George Rupp, who is retiring after nine years as the President of Columbia University, my alma mater.

His stewardship of this world-renowned institution has been truly commendable. He has enhanced the University's already extraordinary level of achievement across all of its mission areas: in teaching; in research; and in service. Columbia is poised to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2004 as a leading light in the renaissance of American higher education and as an exemplary model of the creation and spread of knowledge in the service of humanity.

Through the initiatives Dr. Rupp oversaw, Columbia has become one of the most sought after universities in the world, for scholars seeking to join its world class faculty, for recent graduates seeking to enter one of its many leading graduate and professional programs, and for high school students hoping to be amongst the one in seven applicants gaining admission to Columbia College. Some of this vitality can be seen in the physical environment of the University, which has benefited from a revitalization effort widely praised for its sensitivity to the architectural history of Columbia's campuses and to the needs of their surrounding communities.

But in my opinion, Dr. Rupp's true achievement is less immediately visible. He has helped not just to assemble one of the most distinguished groups of scholars and researchers and one of the most gifted student bodies in the world; his has been one of the foremost voices reminding us that the strength of America's institutions of higher education stems from the connections they enable, between ideas and between ideas and applications. At Columbia, he has helped build the linkages that make the University a whole that is more than the sum of its parts.

A hallmark of Dr. Rupp's leadership has been the creation of innovative structures to meet the challenges posed by the increasingly multidisciplinary and interdependent nature of scientific research. In recent years, Columbia has drawn together scholars from different departments, schools and even outside institutions to develop new ways to organize the search for knowledge. These new centers in-

clude The Earth Institute, The Columbia Genome Center, The Center for Biomedical Engineering, The International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, and The Center for New Media Teaching and Learning. Such efforts will certainly further Columbia's already major role in a strong and successful partnership between the federal government and university-based research.

Under Dr. Rupp's tenure, Columbia's remarkable pool of talent and resources has been increasingly directed to the service of good citizenship. The University, the third largest employer in New York City, has been active in helping foster economic growth in its neighboring communities. For instance, Columbia helped develop the proposal for the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone (UMEZ), provided ongoing technical support to the UMEZ and opened the first biomedical research and development park in New York City. The University also established a program that hires and helps train community residents, and offers "forgivable" loans to employees as an incentive for home-buying within the Empowerment Zone. Columbia also administers academic, professional and service programs that assist thousands of upper Manhattan residents, school children and businesses.

The son of German immigrants, Dr. Rupp has also emphasized the global dimension of Columbia's work and sought to develop its role in international education and research. A number of new academic programs have been created with institutions abroad including the Law School's faculty exchange program with Tokyo University and its four-year double-degree program with the University of Paris; the first American undergraduate program with the Free University of Berlin; and the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation's programs with universities in Brazil, Indonesia and Belize.

Dr. Rupp's retirement closes 25 years of service as dean or president at a major university. Before assuming the presidency of Columbia in 1993, he led Rice University for eight years of successful growth, a period which saw the tripling of applications for admissions and a doubling of federal research support. Earlier, Dr. Rupp was the John Lord O'Brian Professor of Divinity and dean of the Harvard Divinity School. Under his leadership, the School's curriculum was revised to address more directly the pluralistic character of contemporary religious life. Further developments included new programs in women's studies and religion, Jewish-Christian relations, and religion and medicine.

Dr. Rupp's accomplishments place him in the company of such other illustrious presidents of Columbia as Nicholas Murray Butler and Dwight Eisenhower.

As a Columbia alumnus, I feel a heightened pride in my alma mater. As a New Yorker, I applaud Columbia's role in the cultural, intellectual and economic life of my city. I thank George Rupp for his masterful and dedicated service to one of the greatest institutions of one of the greatest cities of the world.

TRIBUTE TO THE COLLEGE OF MARIN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The College of Marin (COM) on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. Established in 1926, the College has a long history of providing vocational, career, enrichment, and community education programs to Marin County.

From its beginning as a small campus in Kentfield, the school has added a second campus at Indian Valley in Novato and serves more than 27,000 students annually. COM offers an Associate Degree and prepares students for transfer to the most prestigious universities. With more than 70 undergraduate majors in humanities/liberal arts, science, and technical and vocational fields, the College services a student body ranging in age from 9 to 80 years old and from 80 different countries. With other activities like a Breakdance Club and the Student Nurse Association, students can participate at many levels.

Throughout its history the community college has demonstrated its responsiveness to the changing needs of Marin, fulfilling its role as a true college of the community. The faculty and staff are committed to providing a quality educational experience for all. And today, under the leadership of President James Middleton and a dedicated Board of Trustees, College of Marin is a thriving institution at the heart of the County.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize College of Marin for its many achievements during its 75 years.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING LUKE P. HIGH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Luke P. High has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 548; and

Whereas, Luke P. High has shared his time and talent with the community; and

Whereas, Luke P. High has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Luke P. High must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Luke P. High for his Eagle Scout Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to a serious illness in my family, it was necessary for me to request a leave of absence

for the week of May 6–10th. As a result I was unavailable for several rollcall votes. Had I been here, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 129–133. On rollcall vote 136, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall votes 137–139, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 140, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 141, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 142, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 143, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 144, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 145, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 146, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 147, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 148, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 149, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 150, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 151, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 152, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 153, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 154, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 155, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 156, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 157, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 158, I would have voted “yea.”

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Small Business Week.

It is a time to celebrate the contributions that America's small businesses make to our economy.

Small business is the engine that drives this nation, producing 75 percent of new jobs, accounting for almost 98 percent of all employers and 53 percent of the private work force.

It is our small businesses that will continue to lead us to economic recovery.

In particular, small tech businesses are on the front lines of the digital revolution. They have led the way in advances from broadband deployment to software development.

My state of Texas ranks second nationally in high tech workers, employing more than 411,000 with an annual payroll of about \$25 billion. Many of those employees are working for small businesses.

And my new congressional district contains thousands of small, innovative high tech centered businesses.

One such company is SecureInfo in San Antonio. SecureInfo was founded in 1994 and has 64 employees.

SecureInfo allows companies and government agencies to learn about and fix their existing cyber vulnerabilities before they can be exploited by hackers. Exploiting known vulnerabilities is the weapon of choice for cyber terrorists.

SecureInfo battles these electronic attackers with vulnerability intelligence methods that were developed while its founders were working for the United States Air Force Emergency Response Team.

SecureInfo is just one of the thousands of small technology businesses around the country connecting rural America, developing next generation hardware and software, protecting our electronic assets and keeping America on the forefront of technological advances.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week.

Every year, National Nurses Week is celebrated from May 6 to May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession. During this week, we recognize the accomplishments and tireless efforts nurses make in order to improve our healthcare system.

Nurses are devoted to their profession and to people in need. They serve our country on the front lines of care in our doctor's offices, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and schools.

As we in Congress work to strengthen Medicare and ensure that all people have access to first class healthcare, we are reminded of the long hours of hard work that nurses endure, the sacrifices they make everyday to contribute to the health and well being of our communities.

With a large population of Americans aging, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services, the nursing profession will become increasingly important. In fact, it is estimated that our country will need more than one million new nurses over the next decade. In order to encourage individuals to enter the nursing profession and support care for our loved ones, we must promote education programs, provide information to recruit individuals and highlight the role of nurses in the community.

As such, I ask you to join me in honoring nurses for their commitment to the principles we value. While they serve as the foundation of our Nation's healthcare system, nurses' dedication to their work and compassion for all patients exemplify the best of America's spirit.

TRIBUTE TO WALDO GIACOMINI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Waldo Giacomini, a prominent West Marin citizen and rancher, who has just died at the age of 88. His life has left a strong imprint on the community.

Mr. Giacomini bought 1,100 acres of mudflats in 1944 which he developed into a thriving dairy. In January 2000, he sold the bulk of this property to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area for a nature preserve to be named the Waldo Giacomini Wetlands. In 1959 Mr. Giacomini co-founded the West Marin based organization, the Resource Conservation District, to promote good land stewardship in local agricultural areas by focusing on the prevention of erosion and water pollution.

He was also known for his participation in local organizations such as the West Marin Lion's Club, Sacred Heart Church, and Sonoma County Trailblazers and was supportive of cultural and service groups such as

the Dance Palace Community Center and Permill Creek Children's Corner, his neighbors in Point Reyes Station. He was frequently seen walking around the town, greeting his many friends.

A dedicated family man, Mr. Giacomini is survived by his four children as well as siblings, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, several of whom continue in the ranching business.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Giacomini leaves us a legacy of caring for the community he called home. In remembering his frequent rendition of the tune, “You are my Sunshine,” I echo the words of that song in bidding him farewell: “(He) made us happy when skies were gray.” Waldo Giacomini will be missed!

HONORING MR. JOSE AND MRS. ANTONIETA VARGAS ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize two wonderful Americans, Mr. Jose and Mrs. Antonieta Vargas, on the joyous and momentous occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. On May 3, 1952, Jose and Antonieta Vargas joined in holy matrimony and commenced their marvelous journey together, a journey which we celebrate and reflect upon today.

Jose Vargas was born on December 19, 1918, in El Paso, Texas, during the Mexican Revolution. His mother, Atilana Castillo de Vargas, had traveled to El Paso to escape the violence of the Revolution while his father, Guadalupe Vargas, stayed in Chihuahua, Mexico. Atilana returned to her home in Chihuahua with her children after the violence had ended. Jose completed six years of primary education before going to work in the mines of Chihuahua and on the railroad; he also became an accomplished carpenter. He is the second of six children; his elder sister, Natividad, and younger brother, Jesus, have passed away. His siblings Maximo, Lazaro, and Guadalupe live in Chihuahua and Los Angeles, California.

Antonieta Valverde was born in the mining town of Santa Eulalia in the Mexican state of Chihuahua on December 27, 1927, and was raised in Ciudad Chihuahua. She is the eldest of six children, including Leobardo, Alicia, Concepcion, Damaso and Berta. She completed college before going to work at the Coca Cola bottling facility in Chihuahua.

Jose and Antonieta met in their neighborhood, Santa Niño de Antocha, while riding the bus to their jobs. After a year-long courtship, they married and moved to El Paso, Texas. There, the first five of their children were born: Jose and Fernando in 1952, Jorge in 1954, Maria Antonieta in 1958, and Arturo in 1962. Fernando died shortly after birth.

In 1962, while working on a construction site, Jose was injured, falling from the second story of a building being razed. The family survived through the kindness and charity of neighbors and family. In 1964, Jose left for Los Angeles to find employment, and upon doing so, moved the family to the South Central and then the Pico-Union areas of the city.

His brother Jesus and sister Guadalupe had already relocated there. In 1968, their youngest son, Rogelio, was born at East Los Angeles Doctor's Hospital.

Jose found employment as an unskilled laborer, and worked for many years at the Aerol Company in the community of Glassel Park. He worked as a driver and assembly line manufacturer. During this time, Antonieta dedicated herself to raising her children and maintaining the household of seven in a one-bedroom apartment. Though they endured years of financial hardship and personal sacrifice, their children today marvel at the realization that although they were poor, they never once wanted for food or shelter. They rejoiced in the abundance of love that these two devoted people brought to their home.

In 1974, after eldest sons Jose and Jorge had left for college, Jose and Antonieta became part of a group of parents called Padres Unidos who were dissatisfied with the quality of education and facilities offered at Magnolia Elementary School, which their children had attended or were attending. They protested, boycotted, and risked arrest demanding adequate facilities and a quality education for their children.

Soon afterward, Antonieta began her second career as a Title III Education Aide with the Los Angeles Unified School District. She worked for the school district from 1976 to 1996. Jose Vargas retired in 1988.

Today, Jose and Antonieta take joy in the success of their children and grandchildren.

Their eldest son, Jose, graduated from California State University at Northridge and the Physician Assistant Program at the Martin Luther King, Jr./Charles R. Drew Medical Center. He is married to Juanita Perez and they have two children, Joel, age 17, and Justene, age 14. Jose is a Physician Assistant with a private medical doctor and his wife, Juanita, is a public school teacher in Los Angeles.

Son Jorge is a graduate of Pepperdine University and Southwest University College of Law. He has worked as an attorney with the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board, the Monterey County District Attorney, and presently with the California State Compensation Board. He lives in Salinas, California with his wife, Diane Peña, and two sons, Nicholas, age 15, and Benjamin, age 11.

Daughter Maria Antonieta graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles, UCLA, where she was a leader in an overnight camping program for disadvantaged

urban youth. She has been a senior manager in the private sector her entire career. An avid sports enthusiast, she lives in Long Beach, California.

Son Arturo graduated from Stanford University with bachelor's and master's degrees. He currently is the Executive Director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, NALEO, and resides in Los Angeles.

Youngest son Rogelio is a graduate of California State University at Northridge and a member of the Los Angeles City Fire Department. He is married to Kristin Fredrickson and has three children: Olivia, age 17 months, and three-month old fraternal twins, Daniela and Julia.

Today, Jose and Antonieta enjoy their retirement years in the Los Angeles community of Highland Park.

Mr. Speaker, as they embark upon the next fifty years of marriage, it gives me great pleasure to join family and friends who honor Jose and Antonieta Vargas with a commemorative mass and celebration on May 11, 2002. Jose and Antonieta exemplify what love, determination and honest, hard work bestow upon a marriage, a family, and the fortunate generations to follow. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying deserved tribute to two humble but immensely accomplished Americans.

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4546) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, later in this debate we will be considering an amendment by the Gentleman from Texas, Mr. PAUL relating to the International Criminal Court. I am perplexed by this amendment, since, if it were binding, it would undermine our ability to defend U.S. servicemen and women, protects

war criminals, and express a profound distrust of the President of the United States. Although revising the amendment to make it non-binding was an improvement, the underlying policy suggested by the Amendment remains misguided.

Mr. Chairman, I understand that the Gentleman is opposed to the International Criminal Court, and this amendment is supposed to express that policy. Buy Mr. Chairman, that is already the policy of the United States. On Monday, the Administration announced that it would not ratify the Rome Statute which creates the Court, had given up on the court as a workable institution, and was not going to provide assistance to it.

On the other hand, Mr. Chairman, the language of this amendment simply goes too far and is fundamentally inconsistent with the national interest. In particular, the amendment provides that no funds may be used to "cooperate" with the court. Mr. Chairman, even opponents of the court should oppose this language. Let me give some examples of what the policy expressed in this amendment may prohibit:

It may prohibit the Defense Department from responding to the Court's investigators when they ask us for exonerating information on actions by U.S. Servicemen or women. Perversely, this would mean this amendment would make it more difficult for us to defend our own troops.

It may prevent us from allowing a member of the armed forces to testify on behalf of one of our NATO allies, who accept this treaty.

And it may prevent us from providing any information with respect to a prosecution of enemies of the United States. If a war crime is committed by Saddam Hussein in country which is a member of the court, and it does not prosecute him for political reasons, then under this amendment we could not help the Court prosecute Saddam.

Moreover, the subject of this amendment was already dealt with by the House in H.R. 1646, the State Department Authorization Act, which appears to be moving towards Conference. That is the proper venue for this topic.

Mr. Chairman, the President has announced his opposition to the Court. This amendment, represents an expression of profound distrust in our commander-in-chief. I think that in the middle of a war, that is the last thing we should be doing.